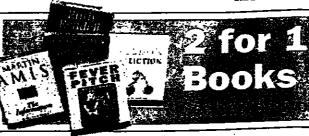
THE 40 MOST INFEDE GAY MEN IN BRITAIN

Calvin Klein interviewed Section Two pages 6.2



or Token, page 9

Clarke to make landmark announcement in his Budget speech

### First private hospitals for NHS

NICHOLAS TIMMINS and DONALD MACINTYRE

The first scheme in which the private sector will design, finance, build and operate a hospital directly for the National Health Service is due to be announced by Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in tomorrow's Budget. The proposal would mean that Granat, more commonly associated with television and motorway service stations, would run a

150-bed section of a hospital. Mr Clarke is expected to give the go-ahead to the £35m project to rebuild large parts of Wycombe and Amersham General Hospitals, part of the South Buckinghamshire NHS Trust. The privately-financed project has been put together by the Health Care Group - a consortium of the builders Taylor Woodrow, Granada which will run the building, and the finance house Nexus.

The scheme will be announced to off-set capital cuts in the Budget expected to hit not just NHS hospitals but the roads programme, housing, schools and other parts of central Government spending. The South Bucks development will be followed shortly by approval for a £26m 166-bed new paediatric wing at St James's University Hospital, in Leeds, planned to complete its redeelopment and a flagship whole of the Norfolk and Norwich NHS Trust. That will provide a 700-bed privately financed and run facility leased to the NHS on a green field site ble base that industry wants in the city. The private consortium will finance and run the buildings, but as with the other projects medical care will

continue to be provided by di-rectly employed NHS staff. The projects are at the core of a big boost to the govern-ment's Private Finance Initiative across departments that Mr Clarke will unveil in a budget speech which Tory MPs are now

firmly hoping will provide the basis of a political recovery beween now and the general election. In a tough spending round which has seen cuts of around five per cent in the costs of all spending departments ministers have been told that many pet capital projects will have to be privately fi-

nanced if they are to go ahead. In his Guildhall speech last week, Mr Major foreshadowed four privately financed trunk road projects and made it clear there were more in the pipeline. Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade, said yesterday on BBC TV's "On the Record" that ministers were planning to

#### Inside

Plan for 25 more private hospitals page 2 City expects Clarke fireworks

page 18

"raise the profile of the private finance initiative and added: "We've aiready got about £2bn -worth of contracts left under the PFI and we expect to have about £5bn by the end of this financial year. So it is beginning to take off very effectively."

Mr Lang appeared to inject a familiar note of caution on the to "to allow us to continue to grow on the basis of a stable economic base, keeping infla-tion low. That is the kind of stamost of all."

But although there have been consistent attempts in Whitehail to dampen hopes by some backbenchers of tax cuts of significantly more than £3bn there was a widespread view in senior Tory circles that the Chancellor would want to reduce the standard rate by 1p at least as an earnest of ministers' professed target of a 20p in the pound

end letter from Mr Major to the Taoiseach in the wake of in-

tensive talks between officials of

both governments which failed

hoping to set up an international

commission on arms decom-

missioning coupled with sepa-

rate preliminary talks between

the two governments and each

of the Northern Ireland parties.

The fresh move was dis-closed by Dublin last night af-ter Dick Spring, the Irish Deputy Prime Minister, warned

standard rate. MPs are also hoping that Mr Clarke's relative prudence will be rewarded by a favourable market reaction which will allow him to reduce interest rates before Christ-

Mr Lang - echoing the private view of other senior ministers — said he had "no idea" whether the Chancellor would attempt to shoot Labour's fox by introducing a multi-billion pound windfall tax on the privatised utilities.

While Sir Marcus Fox, chair man of the influential 1922 committee, has suggested that such a tax might be a good idea, other Tory rightwingers are op-posed to the idea – which Mr Lang claimed yesterday Gordon Brown, the shadow chancellor, "seems to have forgotten" is, by definition, a one-off tax."

Some other senior Tories are also still hoping that Mr Clarke will introduce specific tax proposals to help homeownerswhether by increasing mortgage interest relief for first time buyers or by cancelling stamp duty at least for a set period. But if he chooses to resist pressure he will have been given strong support yesterday by a Social Market Foundation pamphlet which says that lower prices and a stable housing market are part and parcel of a low-inflation

Its authors Andrew Cooper £100m project to rebuild the said Mr Clarke's goal would be the number of people said to be suffering negative equity is consistently exaggerated.

The report says figures fail to account for people who move, those who make lump sum repayments and households with endowment policies, the surrender value of which may be greater than the loss in value on their property.

Meanwhile as part of the big

boost to the private finance initiative, Stephen Dorrell, the Secretary of State for Health, expects around one scheme a month to go through over the

against any assumption that President Bill Clinton's visit to

London, Dublin and Northern

He said President Clinton's

"I don't think President Clin-

visit was "very important for the country, North and South. The

US administration has been a

ton has any tricks up his sleeve.



### Revealed: Murdoch's tax holiday

EXCLUSIVE

MATHEW HORSMAN and JEREMY WARNER

Rupert Murdoch's News International has paid virtually no tax in the past ten years, despite racking up net profits of nearly £1bn since 1986.

The publisher of four na-tional titles, including the *Times* and the *Sun*, earned £779m in the year to the end of last June alone, but paid only £8.3m in

In the ten years since 1986, NI has made accumulated pre-tax profits of £979.4m (net of losses) but paid just £11.74m in net tax, a rate of under 1.2 per cent. Corporation tax in the UK is set at 33 per cent, and most firms pay tax of between 20 and 30 per cent of their profits.

NI's main competitors in the national newspaper market all paid between 20 per cent and 29 per cent in tax on their 1994

The extent of the tax avoidnce - which accountants confirmed is completely legal - is revealed in an Independent investigation published today. and is bound to stir controversy on the eve of the Budget.

Behind this unprecedented tax holiday lies a chain of financial transactions of Byzantine complexity, sometimes in-volving letter-box companies in offshore tax havens. NI's pub-lished accounts contain a list of 28 subsidiaries, of which ten are labelled "finance" companies.

Profits and losses are moved around the group. The end result, together with the entirely normal use of past tax losses, is to reduce the parent comany's tax liability to nil. NI is

Labour's spokesman for City matters, Alastair Darling, said his party was looking at ways to reform the rules governing corporate taxation, particularly the use of group tax relief by large corporations.

At the Labour Party Conference, Gordon Brown, the shadow Chancellor, criticised companies which did not pay their fair share of tax.

Some of the company's tar avoidance can be explained by the entirely normal use of tax losses from previous years. The high costs of building up BSkyB, the company's satellite broadcaster, as well as the move of Mr Murdoch's titles to Wapping, created losses that can be applied to current and future profits.

But these tax losses do not

fully explain the extent of the tax holiday NI enjoys.

According to accountants consulted by the Independent, some of the transactions listed in Nl's many subsidiary



tax minimalisation. A bur geoning and lucrative industry nas grown up around corporat tax avoidance.

Accountants stress that the use of tax minimalisation techniques is not illegal. NI itself would not comment directly. able to decide where to pay tax ment: "It is our policy not to comment on financial or tax matters outside the normal course of publishing the company's accounts. For the record. the company has complied fully with its obligations under all tax laws to which it is subject. including those of the UK."

### Bruton makes 11th-hour peace proposals

DONALD MACINTYRE and RUPERT CORNWELL

John Bruton, the Irish Prime to secure the necessary agreement for a summit to go ahead. Both governments have been Minister, yesterday launched an 11th-hour effort to revive the fading prospects of an Anglo-Irish summit before the arrival of President Bill Clinton this week. Mr Bruton was said by offi-

cial Irish government sources to have drafted in a new letter to John Major "fresh proposals" for a summit agreement which could pave the way to full allparty talks early next year.

The move came after a week-

Catholic challenge Traditionalist Catholics will con-

sider a Irish High Court challenge to the referendum which ended the country's ban on di-Page 2

BBC privatisation Virginia Bottomley is set to announce a plan to privatise the BBC transmitter network along with publication of the Corporation's new Charter. Page 4



ONE

IN BRIEF "Rave' minister speaks Disgraced "rave" minister Chris Brain has admitted "improper sexual conduct with a number of women" in his first television

Bosnian Serb leaders have demanded international protection for Serb-held parts of

Sarajevo.

Mandela threat President Nelson Mandela of South Africa said that Nigeria's military ruler, General Sani Abacha, was "sitting on a volClose encounters of the video kind

great resource".

film role.

aware they were being filmed.

But the content has prompted immediate calls from MPs

He is not coming in that light, and it would be very unfair if either government expected him to offer the solution in the context of our present dilemma."
The main difference between

Ireland would itself break the current impasse.

Mr Spring said: "There are different opinions held by the the two sides is over London's British and Irish governments insistence that Sinn Fein/IRA and we have got to try to overagree to hand over some eapons before all-party talks

begin. David Trimble, leader of the Ulster Unionists, recalled that President Clinton said some months ago that "decommissioning was the next step" and

that he had assured the Union-

he had been constantly impressing on Sinn Fein the need

Party affair: Kenneth Clarke in Nottingham at the weekend

to make progress in this area.
Mr Trimble added: "We were hoping that his visit and the influence he would be exerting... would produce some movement from Sinn Fein, but unfortunately it doesn't appear to have done so yet."

He said the problem was that rather than showing any commitment towards peace, "Sinn Fein leaders are constantly threatening renewed violence". But Gerry Adams, president

Dimbleby on London Weekend Television: "I do think it is inevitable unless we start talking, unless we start to consolidate the peace process ... we will slip back into conflict."

Mr Clinton's aides are portraying the trip, which starts on dnesday, less as opening a new chapter in the search for peace than as a "celebration" of the 15-month-old ceasefire in a part of the world where, as the President said in his regular Saturday radio address, "bombs and bullets have given way to hope".

sible video images but we have

vith every close-circuit camera.

If that code is breached, we stop

funding. But CCTV cuts crime

and we don't want to make rules too vigorous." She added the is-

sue may rest with the British

Board of Film Classification.

up by the pressure group, Lib-

erty, whose treasurer, John Lyons, said: "There is nothing

wrong with having closed-circuit

TV to protect people and to

prevent or detect shoplifting and

other crime, but people cer-tainly do not expect to be spied

on in this way or for the mate-

The issue is also being taken

produced a code of conduct

Maurice Lacroix

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interview.

Serb demand

Page 10

cano" and that he would explode it under him. Page 13

BUSINESS 18-29 COMMENT 16,17 CROSSWORD 26 GAZETTE 14

LAW REPORT 14 LEADING ARTICLES 16 LETTERS 16 NEWS 2-13

OBITUARIES 14 SHARES 20 SPORT 21-26

The traditional British night out may never be the same again. An evening in a nightclub fol-lowed by a fight in the street or sex in a shop doorway could now lead to an unsolicited starring

The release today of a video Caught in the Act! taken from closed-circuit television footage includes excerpts of a couple having sex in a doorway as well as men fighting and hotel staff in changing rooms. All were un-

est work from Barrie Goulding, the film-maker who made Executions, which showed 21 films erless to do anything about this of people being put to death. It led to such outrage that WH Smith and John Menzies used for security purposes banned it after politicians and police condemned it.

Tam Dalyell, Labour MP for Linlithgow, has written to the Home Secretary, Michael Howard, arguing that the use of CCTV for commercial gain leaves people "wide open" to blackmail. "I wrote to Mr. Howard after two of my con-stituents were being made fun

section

**TWO** 

n't a big deal but there is a wider issue. The Government is pow-Mr Goulding said yesterday:

"It's voyeuristic, I wouldn't deny that. It is a commercial film and I will make money from it. But there is a message - who watches the watcher? The Home Office last night

admitted it could be powerless to prevent the film's release. A spokeswoman said: "We would of, through a video of them tak- condemn the use of irrespon-

TELEVISION & RADIO 27,28 WEATHER 25

ARTS 10 CHESS 26 CROSSWORD 26 FEEDBACK 26 LIFE 8,9 LISTINGS 24,25 REVIEWS 11 NETWORK 12-19

େ ସେ⊅ ଡ ●

## and INDEPENDENT Week When a village feels the cold, rockers seem so old and champagne bargains will make you bold



because it's good to know, things remain. the same you'll want to see tabled ourveyors of the three chord trick: STATUS QUO. Manchester Apollo, 0161 273 3775.



who led in love with a premise and runs limb it Phyllida taw disects Duke of York's London Jewess: They emberted on a passionate affair which was traggally: ended by the Gestapa

have been for cover after the recent cold spell check stored FRUIT regularly, remove ritobled fruit before it rots and set traps. Perhaps it would be more ecologically

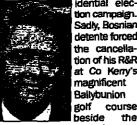
at the Big (0181 313 7919) are offering return FUGHTS Stansted to Newark for £199 on Thursdays, Fridays, Sundays until 10 December . . .

#### Teasing

Chancellor Kenneth Clarke unveils his Budget. Tory backbenchers see tax cuts as their best chance of electoral salvation and Mr Clarke is unlikely to disappoint. Teasing the faithful at last month's party conference. Mr Clarke lapsed into Francis Urguhart-speak there might be tax outs, he couldn't possibly comment. MPs will debate the Budget proposals for five days. They will comment, At length.

#### **Teesing**

After gritting his teeth and dropping in on Downing Street, Bill Clinton follows JFK, Ronald Reagan and Perry Como in filming a promotional video in Ireland for his forthcoming gig, the US Pres-



Atlantic, Washington Insiders say a golf-crazy Clinton had already memorised the course handbook.

#### Pleasing

Newcastle gets the chance to see what the fuss is about their rugby team. Because of union's arcane transfer and registration rules, Rob Andrew's recruits - including England international Dean Ryan and Scotland's Gary Armstrong and Doddie Weir – have been prevented from playing for their new club. They make their first appearance, in a

#### TODAY

#### Cold snap

If the recent early dusk ha enhanced your winter depression, spare a thought for the villagers of Utsjoki, Finland. This is the last time they will see the sun until February. Add to that their endurance of temperatures of -20C and Britain's average eight and a half hours of daylight and temperate climate seem almost tropical by comperison. Even Britain can't compare with Namibia whose temperatures, in excess of 33C should provide daylight enough for anyone.

#### Fashion statement



The swankiest trial in the world begins in Milan. Designers Armani, Versace and Ferre face charges of bribing tax officials, but will judge Antonio di Pietro be wearing one of the defendants' creations?

#### Per ardua ad-verts Astronomical advertising costs

becomes a reality with the launch of Sweden's Maxus space rocket from Kiruna. The 13 ton rocket's flight will claim the first advert in space, not to mention \$1m, by bearing the logo of People Cellular Computers. Will astronauts of the future don multi-sponsored overalls in the Formula One tradi-

#### **TOMORROW**

#### Without art

The days when a good view and a paint brush were the basis of great art are long since over. With works that include Damlen Hirst's dissected cattle and the internal examinations of Mona Hatoum whose earlier work critic Brian Sewell described as "a shooping trolley contraption", the modern artist may list a diversity of skills from butcher to gynaecologist. The Turner Prize winner is chosen live on Channel 4's, Without Walls' (9pm). Bookmaker William Hill's latest odds are: Hirst 4-5, Hatoum 2-1 and Wallinger 7-2.

#### Look, sees The General

Church of England meets at Church House, Westminster until Friday. It will discuss a controversial report on the family and far-

to reform the administration of the Church. The General Synod is the only body outside Parliament which can make English law, though Parliament must approve its efforts.

#### Mighty Moyet

If you haven't heard her live you haven't heard Alison Moyet. Her powerful voice crosses musical boundaries and with her greatest hits album showcasing her talents this brief tour should be a force to be reckoned with. Bournemouth international Ceritre 01202 297297. So appropriate.

#### WEDNESDAY 29

#### Exit Reg

He may be The Best Soap Star ever, according to 'TV Times' readers, but, after six Holdsworth bows out of 'Coronation Street'. Actor Ken Morley seems less keen to give up the **limelight** 

#### and commemorates his departure with "Knowledge is Power" (Blake, £14.99). It's his, "warts, verruces, bunions and all" autobiography.

#### Able and willing

Council officials in Huddersfield will be shadowed by disabled people who will report on what changes should be made to improve the facilities. All part of a week of events culminating in Sunday's International Day of the Disabled, sponsored by the United Nations. (Contact: 0171 834 0477) Events across the country including today's Positive Choices Conference in London, which alms to examine ways of improving care for disabled children and coincides with similar events in the Sudan, Barbados

#### Rod 'n' roll

Rod Stewart (Tues-Thurs, London Wembley Arena, 0181-900 1234). One size down from his Wembley Stadium shows earlier this year but still in the round, **Rod promises** to deliver "all the hits plus songs not performed in over two decades' in that distinctive growl which has made his Tom Waits cover versions

#### THURSDAY 30

#### **'Chelle shock**

Her days in 'EastEnders' playing Michelle - aka television's favourite single mother - are now behind her and actress Susan Tully is busy proving that there is life after coap. She opens in John Godber's The New Office Party for Hull Truck Theatre. 01482 323638

#### Take one

Sir Georg Sotti conducts a starry line up in an evening devoted to his countryman, Bela Bartok. Lazio Polgar and the marvellous Julia Varady sing his dramatic and Andras Schiff plays the second plano concerto. Barbican, London, 0171 638 8891



#### **Après le déluge**

South Africa and England, although a virtual washout, should have at least got rid of the recent English tradition of losing the first match of a series. Hostilities recommence in Johannesburg Will Ray Illingworth trust Devon Maicolm? Will Mark Ramprakash make it as a Test batsman? Will Michael Atherton (above) ever

#### FRIDAY 1

#### Woody wouldn't he?

Having decided that 'immortality in my work doesn't interest me ... ! want immortality from not dying, Woody Allen is to be congratulated for his partial success in turning 60. Whether or not God grants him 'One clear sign, like putting millions in a Swiss bank account for me', might depend on the success of his latest film, "Mighty Aphrodite", in which he directs co-star Helena Bonham Carter.



#### Sieazebali

One of football's biggest scandals makes an action replay as Zimbabwe's national hero, Bruce Grobbelaar, makes vet another acpearance in court on charges of alleged match-fixing along with the former Aston Villa striker John Fashanu and Wimbledon goalkeeper Hans Segers.

#### More ado from Ken Kenneth Branagh moves to calmer pastures with "In the Bleak Midwinter'. After the monstrous disment of 'Frankenstein' and the luwiedom of 'Peter's Friends' this is a modest comedy about a group of am-dram enthusiasts (Including John Sessions, Joan Collins and Jennifer Saunders) staging a provincial

#### THE WEEKEND 2/3

#### Plant higher

Be nice to your plants. Buy the Erbale, a plastic hanging plant holder. Four vertical containers alternate with plasma pumping bags for the water, providing a steady drip. Designed by Bortolani and Beccheli it is functional, futuristic and makes your plants cascade healthily. £49.95 from Viaduct, 1-10 Summer's Street, London EC1, 0171 278 8456



#### Beatles for re-sale

Avid music fans will descend on Wernbley Conference Centre (Saturday) for the London Rock and Pop Fair (Saturday 11 am, Sunday 10am £3). Besides The Beatles' 1 Want You', cut only a week before the band's split and which could go for £10,000, will be a collection that includes every British single released since 1968, including Agadoo.

#### Dee-lights

The British Comedy Awards will be shown live on ITV (Saturday 9pm) from London's South Bank, with appearances from Billy Connolly and Jack Dee. Guaranteeing a few extra laughs, if only for his My Little Pony hairstyle, is host Jonathan Ross.

#### **Getting fizzical**

Opening salvoes in the pre-Christmas high street champagne frenzy. Oddbins, Bottoms Up, Wine Cellar, Nicolas and Majestic all offer big savings. Tesco are slashing 27 per cent off a case of Charles Heldsieck, Victoria Wine 25 per cent off Lanson Brut Ros. Biggest pricecut to date is a swingeing 32 per cent off Bollinger 1988, decimated by £11 a bottle from £33.99 at Fuller's.

The Independent this week: AZTEC CAMERA REINVENTED: Cult band of the Eighties is back. WEARING THE TROUSERS: The suit as fashionable as ever. TIMBERLAKE WERTENBAKER: New at the Royal Court this week: Julie Walters in Sister My Sister.

#### WIN

HamperCollins audio books: TWO for the price of ONE. See Section Two. page 9 for token 2 TVR Griffith 500. See Page 12 for

Last week's loser Nicholas Soames MP who railled to the defence of Charles after Diana's Oscar-winning performs by suggesting she was paranoid. If it goes on like this, the Queen of Hearts will have him behead.

Edited by Richard Holledge • Fax 0171 293 2051

Irish referendum: Wafer-thin majority leaves ministers open to attack by party angered at public funding for 'Yes' campaign

### Catholics could challenge divorce decision

#### ALAN MURDOCH

Traditionalist Catholic campaigners will today consider Republic's 58-year-old ban on divorce by a wafer-thin margin al 10 days ago by the Supreme

of 0.55 per cent. Ben Kinsella, vice-president of the fringe party Muintir na hEireann (People of Ireland's Party) said it was taking legal ad- en days after polling, after for-

day with other groups strongly opposed to the introduction of civil divorce.

The party's objections to the launching an Irish High Court - result are based on the Govchallenge to the result of the erument's use of public funds to referendum which ended the support its "Yes" campaign. This was ruled unconstitution-

> Court. The principal Anti-Divorce Campaign said it would consider a challenge, permitted up to sev-

would discuss this possibility to- tomorrow. But the social welfare minister Proinsias de Rossa insisted the Government had of 1.63 million. It represented spending was committed, a de-

But some anti-divorce campaigners maintained Government pro-divorce literature was being delivered to households even after this had been blocked by the Supreme Court ruling.
A recount late on Saturday vice on a court challenge, and mai publication of results marginally increased the "Yes"

vorce poll in 1986.

The referendum revealed a cision earlier approved by a vote country split down the middle. of the Dail. The greater Dublin area, home to a third of the population, voted strongly in favour, narrowly cancelling out majorities against divorce in southern and western regions of Munster and Con-

Anti-divorce majorities in ately recognised the implica-

majority for limited no-fault di-vorce which was 9,114 votes out lower than in 1986. In addition many urban working class areas,

> In these areas declining Catholic Church influence and high rates of marital breakdown have been most obvious. National figures show births outside marriage have more than doubled in 10 years to just over 20 per cent.

The Government immedi-

the result. The law reform min-party support for divorce. ister Mervyn Taylor said minisen: "I want to stress th Government will support the family through mediation, counselling and welfare ser-

possible." Divorce itself will not become available in family law courts until next year. The specific terms approved by the referendum will be inserted in the constitu-

vices and legal aid in every way

tions of the division shown by tion, a move devised to win all-sympathetic attitude. One se-Those seeking divorce must

existing "first family" dependents will be adequately provided for before a divorce may

For the Catholic Church the result means a substantial public rejection of its hitherto implacable opposition to divorce. The result may have been influenced by an apparently un-

nior bishop sparked public acted correctly given its understanding of the law when the

a 15.01 per cent swing towards notably in Dublin and Cork, votstanding of the law when the

the "Yes" vote since the last died strongly for divorce for the

ed strongly for divorce for the

exposed by a rancorous camapart for four of five preceding

be entitled to receive the sacra-

Government relief was undis guised at a victory which had seemed unlikely a week ago. Ministers had repeatedly warned a "No" vote would send unhelpful signals to Ulster Unionists by implying an unwillingness to accommodate minorities at a highly sensitive moment in the peace process.

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### Private cash lined up for further 25 new hospitals

There are now 25 potential deals each worth more than £25m under consideration for new hospitals as part of the Government's Private Finance

The Chancelior's expected announcement tomorrow of the first scheme could start the process which will lead to the private sector building hospitals worth approaching £1bn which it will lease back to the NHS.

The Leeds deal, struck with Medipark, a consortium whose members include Charterhouse Bank and the builders, Laing, will include an 80-bed patient "hotel" of which 35 beds will initially be run as a private patient unit. Medipark will pay St James's (known as Jimmy's) a

royalty on the turnover. Stephen Dorrell, the Secretary of State for Health, expects around one scheme a month to go through over the next year. The South Bucks scheme includes replacing Second World War hutted wards at Amersham

General Hospital, a scheme

NHS revolution, writes **Nicholas Timmins** 

likely to begin a £2bn

first promised by Enoch Powell when he was Minister of Health in 1963.

Mr Dorrell is expected to use that to back his claim that the private finance initiative means new NHS hospitals will no longer have to wait in the queue

for public sector capital. Other projects nearing fruition include a £26m redevelopment at Bishop Auckland, Durham, a £50m rebuild at Swindon and Mariborough and a £45 project in Carlise. Further down the line are massive private sector projects aimed at London, including the rede-velopment of the Royal London

following the closure of Bart's. Mr Dorrell said last week that in the "overwhelming majority" of cases, NHS trusts will con-

tinue to be the direct employ-

The deal at Jimmy's is er of clinical staff - a claim aimed at heading off Labour charges that the schemes will lead to NHS privatisation.

Labour will, however, find the schemes impossible to cancel, according to Kingsley Man-ning, managing director of Newchurch, a consultancy which holds a database on the schemes. Projects worth around £2bn could be in the pipeline by the general election. "If Labour does cancel them, it will either have to find £2bn of capital from taxation to replace them, or it will have to tell 40 or so local communities that they are not

going to get the new hospital". Some critics of the initiative, however, say it could lead to a public spending crisis. Nicholas Bosanquet, Professor of Health Policy at Imperial College, London, said growing use of com-mercial capital is creating a new breed of "private sector rent-seekers", such as banks which will drive up public spending to make returns on the capital they have invested.



Military gasbeg: A 40ft inflatable soldier in a Christmas parade in London yesterday Photograph: Philip Meech

### Murder suspect chokes to death in cell

A woman who is alleged to have killed her husband after discovering that he was having an affair has been found dead in

her prison cell. Claire Bosley, 34, who appears to have choked herself by forcing tissues down her throat, died at Holloway prison, north London, hours after appearing in court charged with the murder of her husband, Barry.

arrested on Thursday at her par-

ents' home in Thatcham, Berk-

shire, after the body of her 42 charged with murder and was year-old husband was found stabbed to death at their home in Tadley, Hampshire. Last night, the couple's eight-

year-old son, Thomas, was being comforted by relatives. A police source revealed that Mrs Bosley was furious after finding out that her husband ~ who had survived two kidney transplants seven years ago ~ Mrs Bosley, a secretary, was

had been having an affair. She appeared before Aldershot magistrates on Saturday

due to appear again before Basingstoke magistrates on 4 December. But later in the day she was found dead in her cell. A spokesman for Hampshire

police said: "We are not seek-

ing anyone else in connection with Mr Bosley's murder." A spokesman for Scotland Yard said a post-mortem examination on Mrs Bosley's body would take place at City of Lon-

don mortuary today. Neighbour of the couple in

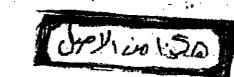
Tadley expressed concern for the future of Thomas. Pearl Loosen, 49, said: "I'm devastated for the little lad. At his age you know exactly what is happening and he may never come to terms with it."

A friend of the family, who did not wish to be named, said: "The little boy will never get over this." While a neighbour, who wished to remain anonymous. said: "You feel so sorry for the little boy. How is the poor little lad going to face his friends at

school? My heart goes out to him and to the grandparents. This is such a shock and so sad."

Prayers were offered for Mr Bosley at the local parish church. St Paul's, yesterday - hefore news of his wife's death emerged.

The Rev Martin Nockels said: "We remembered the family and the staff and pupils at Bishopswood Junior School which the boy attends. The whole community is saddened



Television confession: Priest who built up cult following with 'rave' style service admits to numerous liaisons

### Disgraced vicar quits over sex scandal

JOHN MCKIE

Disgraced church minister Chris Brain last night admitted "improper sexual conduct with a number of women" and revealed he had resigned as a Church of England priest.

Three months ago the former Anglican vicar, who led a "ravestyle" Nine O'Clock Service in Sheffield, was accused of a sex scandal involving women in his

congregation.
On last night's BBC1 Every-man programme, Mr Brain and female NOS members gave their first interviews about the controversial Sunday services, which bred a band of mainly young devotees.

In the programme, Mr Brain offered to resign as a priest, a decision he confirmed with a letter to the diocese of Sheffield

on Saturday. Mr Brain said: "For a priest in a church setting. I would have to say that I was involved in improper sexual conduct. I did get gratification. The gratification was after was not sexual, although there was sexual gratification ... I would not use somebody. It was in the area of just closeness and affection and friendship."

Mr Brain conceded that the sexual activity had developed "after a long period of developing a close relationship with

that person" One such woman said last ight that Mr Brain told her that "he would teach me to discover my potential as a woman. It escalated from something I found acceptable to something I find unbelievable now. It has cost me dearly. I feel in some way he owned my body and I was his to do what he wanted

with, and that disgusts me". One of the female NOS leaders said of Mr Brain: "He would regularly talk about how we

definition of sexuality in the Church. Again, it's language, language covering up the fact of what was really going on - one bloke getting his rocks off with about 40 women.

"Abuse - religious, sexual, psychological abuse had gone on in the Nine O' Clock Service for years," she said.

It was not just Mr Brain who was under attack yesterday. One woman on the documentary claimed that she had complained to the Bishop of Sheffield in November 1992.

Roy Arnold, spokesman for the diocese, dismissed this allegation last night. "Her complaints were of a general nature. As soon as we heard serious complaints in the summer of this year, we investigated them straightaway and blew the whistle on Mr Brain."

The Church was also criti-cised on BBC Radio Four's Sunday programme by Mr Brain's lawyer, Stewart Lalc, for abandoning his client. "I think he feels totally unsupported in any way, shape or form by the Church," he said. Mr Arnold defended the

Church. "We have been too busy dealing with the victims," he said. "And there are more obvious victims than Chris Brain.

The Church also criticised the BBC for overstating its probiems. The Rt Rev David Lunn, Bishop of Sheffield, said: "I still find it difficult to understand why the BBC and the media in general have managed to convince themselves that the problems of a single congregation in a single diocese have represented a management crisis of mega-proportions for the Church of England."

John Drury, the BBC's head of factual programmes (reli-gion), said. There are clergy interviewed in the programme who share our view that this is were discovering a post-modern a matter of serious concern."



Chris Brain, who admitted having sex with women members of his Nine O'Clock Service congregation

### 'All heaven and hell were let loose'

The Nine O'Clock Service was conceived in an outbreak of screaming and fainting under the stage at an evangelical meeting in Sheffield in 1985. The star of the meeting was the American John Wimber, once a drummer with the Righteous Brothers, now a successful evangelist whose church, the Vineyard Fellowship, has since been responsible for the "Toronto Blessing", which causes people to crawl around church floors barking or giggling

uncontrollably. Canon Robert Warren, now the Church of England's officer for evangelism, but then vicar prophesying through their tears.

of St Thomas's, Crookes, South Yorkshire, where the Nine O'Clock Service started, described what happened in a book published before the scandal broke. "I found myself in the midst of a group of black-clad young people. A young Vineyard pastor from inner-city Chicago ... asked the Holy Spirit to come; and he came in incredible power. When the Spirit came, all heaven, and, yes, all hell, were let loose. Some were screaming in emotional release, at least one demonised person was set free, others were weeping for the pain of the city, and

Many were being knocked to part of a community around the floor under the power of the Tense, the rock band that Chris Spirit. Bodies were falling all around me.

"In one of those rare moments that I know God has spoken to me, the thought 'God wants to add one or two hundred young people like this to the church in the near future' was in my head without my having put it there," Canon War-

He also says he felt so ill-atease outside the churchy world that even entering a betting shop had rendered him almost speechless with embarrassment. The young people then were at work in them. Barriers fell

car.

Brain managed. "They too were going through a time of spiritual darkness and distance from God; and a time of leadership struggle." Relations with the rest of the congregation were fraught. But following the Wimber revival meetings "the change in them was evident, and they seemed to move into the

new realm of God's action with greater ease and speed than the rest of us ... God dealt quickly with my fears and suspicions of them as a group and gave me confidence to trust that he was away within days, though we had no idea what would be opened up as a result. We were very soon to find out".

The group was invited to arrange services in St Thomas's at 9pm, hence the name. Only when Mr Brain adopted the "Creation Theology" of the American former Dominican, Matthew Fox, did the abuse begin, according to evangelical observers. However, the diocesan investigators unravelling the scandal have discovered that Mr Brain had been abusing his followers even earlier, when God told Canon Warren that this was the future of the church.

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#### IN BRIEF

#### Epidemic fear as flu cases surge

A spate of flu cases has fuelled fears that Britain may be on the brink of a Christmas epidemic, it was revealed yesterday. Doctors in central England

have reported two and a half times the number of expected cases. Figures from 92 national "spotter practices" suggest 50,000 new cases last week.

The Royal College of Gen-eral Practitioners says the outbreak has hit 90 per 100,000 population, up 30 on the week before. Similar figures this week will confirm an epidemic.

#### Post strike ends

Postal workers across Scotland returned to work to start clearing a backlog of 12 million items of mail after accepting a review of delivery services following a week long strike over threats to end a second post.

#### **Briton murdered**

The partly-clothed body of a murdered woman found in a ravine near Estepona, Spain, was identified as Susan Kendrick, 32, a musician from Oxfordshire who went missing in April after living for a year on the Cost del Sol.

#### **Toxic leak alert**

Ammonia leaking from a cooling system at Inverness Ice Centre was blamed for 21 children and three adults needing treatment for the effects of toxic fumes after suffering breathing problems during a junior hockey match.

#### Lucky three

Three winners scooped £3.3m n Saturday's National Lottery draw. The winning numbers were 16, 23, 28, 30, 42 and 46 with the bonus ball 45.

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Common Agricultural Policy: Reform of EU market rules has allowed UK wheat-growers to strike it rich at taxpayers' expense



## Cereal farmers hit jackpot in land price boom

NICHOLAS SCHOON Environment Correspondent

While the housing market remains moribund, farmland prices have risen by 20 per

cent or more in the past year. Rental payments for agri-cultural land have doubled under new tenancy laws, which the Government has just implemented, says the Royal Institution of Chartered

Meanwhile, many British farmers - and the majority of cereal growers - have seen their incomes soar over the past three years as agriculture has boomed following more than a decade of painful decline.

When the Ministry of Agri-culture's latest income statistics are published in January they are expected to show another handsome increase of several times the rate of inflation.

Few are boasting of their good fortune. One who does is Oliver Walston, who has condemned the huge taxpayer and consumer support for Europe's farmers under the Common Agricultural Policy. Other farmers have sent him hate mail.

"It's a crazy system," he said this weekend. "The cheque I will soon receive just for having planted the crop will be 25 per cent bigger this year, while the wheat I sell is fetching a 20 per cent higher price. Whoopee - I've hit the jackpot."

Mr Walston is at pains to point out that not all farmers are enjoying such prosperity. Hill farmers and the pig and poul-try sector have suffered of late.

The CAP was reformed three years ago to bring Europe's cereal prices, grossly inflated by tariff barriers and guaranteed minimum prices, in line with world prices. The guaranteed floor price is being steadily cut over a six-year period, but to cushion the blow farmers are paid a fixed yearly sum for each acre - irrespective of how much they produce.

There is one condition attached to this largesse; Eugood fortune is unlikely to last.

rope's medium to large farmers (which covers virtually all of Britain's) have to take some of their arable land out of production in order to curb the notorious crop surpluses. Initially this was 15 per cent, but it has been cut to 10 per cent.

But since this great reform, world grain prices have risen dramatically and now stand at around £130 a tonne.

Meanwhile, Europe's farmers continue to receive their fixed acreage payments while winning a higher and higher price for their harvests. Britain's have fared particularly well because of the big devaluation of the pound which accompanied Britain's exit from the European Exchange Rate Mechanism.

Mr Walston's view, shared by the Ministry of Agriculture and environmental groups, is that farmers should sell their crops at prevailing world market prices while compensation payments should end.

Instead, support from tax-payers should be strictly linked to farmers doing things that society wants - looking after and improving the rural environment or encouraging wildlife.

The National Farmers' Union agrees that UK farming has become much more profitable but adds that in a highly cyclical business, the present

### **British diplomat** shot in Kenya

shot and wounded during a high-speed car chase as he tried to escape a gang of car thieves.

A spokeswoman for the British High Commission in Kenya confirmed that Graeme Gibson, 43, who is Second Secretary (Commercial), had been seriously wounded in a shooting incident.

According to reports, Mr Gibson was attacked on the outskirts of the capital, Nairobi, as he drove home in his Land Rover Discovery at about 8.30pm on Friday night.

A gang in a stolen Peugeot car tried to run him off the road but after a long high-speed chase they shot him several times, said the Sunday Nation

newspaper.

Mr Gibson was wounded in the neck and lost control of his car which crashed into a gate. He was taken to The Nairobi Hospital's intensive care unit. The gang made their getaway after hijacking another car, said police.

Mr Gibson, 43, has worked in Nairobi in the Commission's commercial department since November, promoting trading links with Britain. He joined the Foreign Office

A British diplomat in Kenya was in 1971 and has also served in several other African and European countries. He became a second secretary, a middleranking diplomatic position, in

> The shooting was the second assault on a diplomat in Kenya's capital this month. India's amhassador and his wife were hospitalised with serious injuries early this month after they were attacked at their home in the exclusive Muthaiga suburb, where most diplomats and wealthy businessmen live.

> Kenya's Foreign Minister, Kalonzo Musyoka, said last week that the government planned to provide police protection to the homes of diplomats, but gave no details.

Simon Hemans, British High Commissioner, said Mr Gibson, who was driving home from a commercial reception, took a circuitous route to see whether he was really being followed.

"They suddenly overtook him, pulled in front of him, one man leapt out and fired straight at him. Then the car sped off, and he was left wounded in his car," he told Independent Radio News. Discovery cars were a popular target of armed hi-jackers at the moment, he said.

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#### DAILY POEM

**Liverpool Echo** By Carol Ann Duffy

Pat Hodges kissed you once, although quite shy, in sixty-two. Small crowds in Matthew Street endure rain for the echo of a beat, as if nostalgia means you did not die.

Inside phone-booths loveless ladies cry on Merseyside. Their faces show defeat. An ancient jukebox blares out Ain't She Sweet in Liverpool, which cannot say goodbye.

Here everybody has an anecdote of how they met you, were the best of mates. The seagulls circle round a ferry-boat

out on the river, where it's getting late. Like litter on the water, people float outside the Cavern in the rain. And wait.

You have to be a real sour square not to love the nutty, noisy, handsome Beatles", opined the Daily Mirror in November 1963. It's just one of the raves, reflections and reveries that makes up Phil Bowen anthology of Beatles poetry, Things We Said Today published this month by Stride Publications. Fifty po-cts, including Philip Larkin ("Sexual intercourse began... Be-tween the end of the Chatterley ban/And the Beatles' first LP"), Roger McGough, Adrian Mitchell, Wendy Cope, Lachlan McKinnon. Stuart Sutcliffe and Carol Ann Duffy prove that they were there, or thereabouts, when it all happened.

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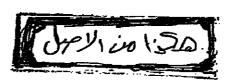
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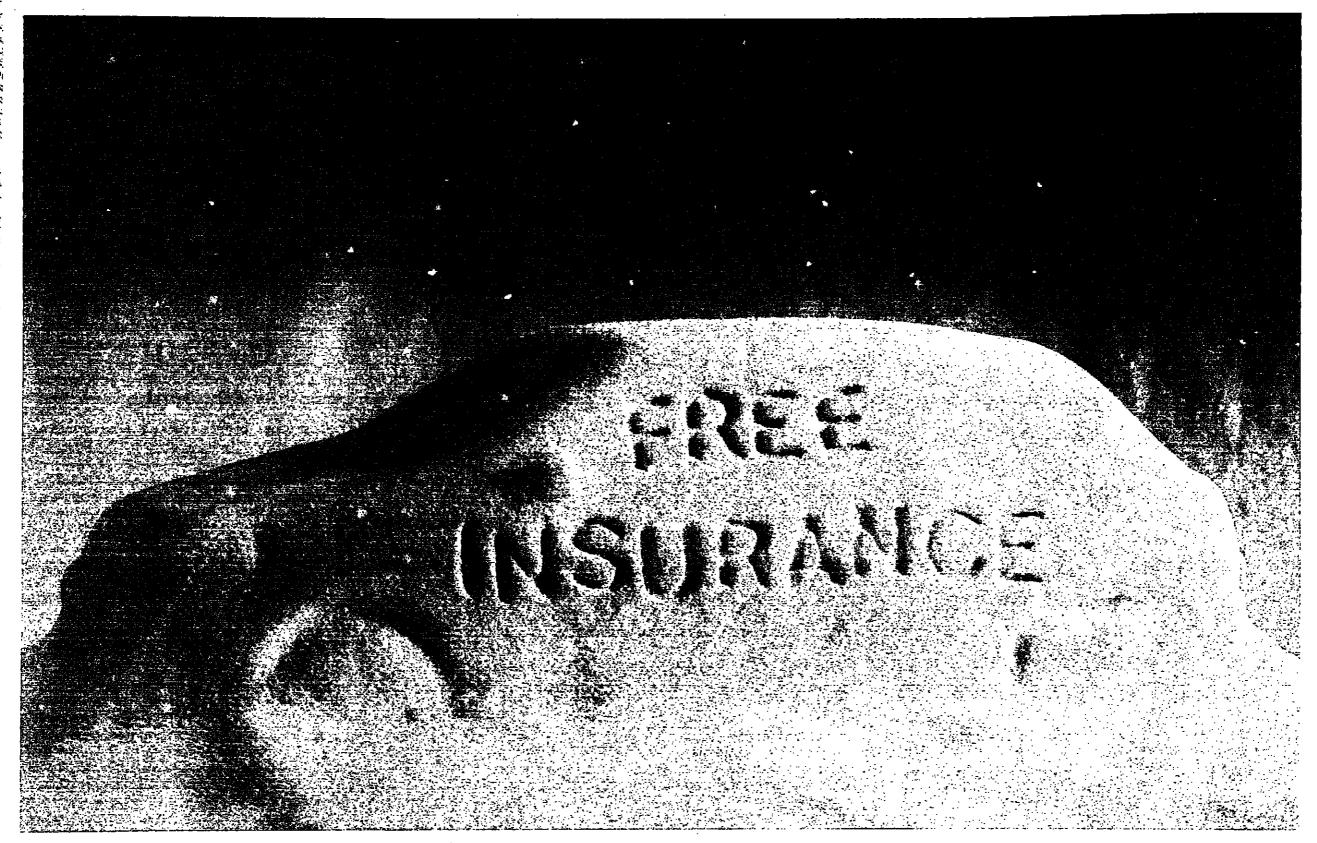
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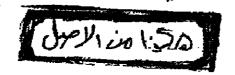
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Helio petal: Orchids at the Royal Horticultural Society Garden at Wisley, Surrey, that form part of its 'Orchids For All' display. The garden features 300 flowers flown specially from Singapore Photograph: Philip Meech

Checking the books: Report outlines escalating costs of project

### British Library 'will be 10 years overdue'

**CHRIS BLACKHURST** Westminster correspondent

One of Britain's landmark public building projects is 10 years behind schedule and will cost almost three times more than original official estimates, it emerged yesterday.

Attempts by the Govern-ment to douse the long-running row over the new British Library, next to London's St Pancras station, seem certain to fail with the publication early next year of a study by the Na-tional Audit Office (NAO), the public finance watchdog, into continuing delays and cost over-

Already castigated by the Commons National Heritage dim collection of sheds groping for some symbolic significance. the controversy over the library will continue with the release of the NAO study.

A draft of the Audit Office's findings is understood to have ley, the Secretary of State for National Heritage, and her officials, for their views. The final NAO report will only be pub-

Last year an investigation by the *Independent* revealed a catalogue of construction errors and design faults at the nine acre complex. Some of the mistakes were so bad that suspicions of fraud and deliberate

sabotage were raised.

Wales, who describes it as "a dim collection of sheds groping ernment had not done enough to bring the project under con-trol. The NAO is expected to confirm the final bill for the library will top £500m - nearly three times more than was ini-

tially envisaged.

The building, with five reading rooms, auditorium, an area set aside for studying rare books, and basement storage for 12 million volumes, will not be ready until the end of this decade, compared with an original completion date of 1989.

Embarrassingly for the Government and the builders, it will not be fully finished in time for the formal opening by the Queen in 1997.

Of continuing concern to the NAO is the way the project has have not been made subject to severe time penalties. At the some jobs have been so poor and the work has been carried out so badly they have needed

immediate replacing. Designed to house 18 million books and provide space for more than 1,000 academic readers, the library has been dogged with problems, most of which have been caused by the desire to install modern technology and equipment. In 1991 moveable shelves jammed. They cost millions of pounds to replace.

The air conditioning system has had to be modified and thousands of miles of defective wiring had to be ripped out and replaced. A ceiling has also been taken down and rebuilt after it was found to be too low.

### 'Pub philosopher' on hunger strike over Plato clash

JAMES CUSICK and JEFFREY GETTLEMAN

Down the pub in Oxford, the town of dreaming spires, dons and punts, the usual inebriate debates over who is the greatest footballer ever - Cantona or Best - have been displaced by talk of Greek philosophy.

The Phaedrus, sounding like a weapon from Star Trek, but in fact one of Plato's philosophical dialogues, has provoked the former Czech dissident and unofficial pub philosopher, Julius Tomin, to go on hunger strike.

Mr Tomin, famous in the late Eighties for delivering a series of lectures on philosophy in a pub in Swindon, has resorted to a hunger protest over the university authority's failure to recognise his genius.

While still a fashionable pettifog in the former Czechoślovakia, Oxbridge thinkers beat a



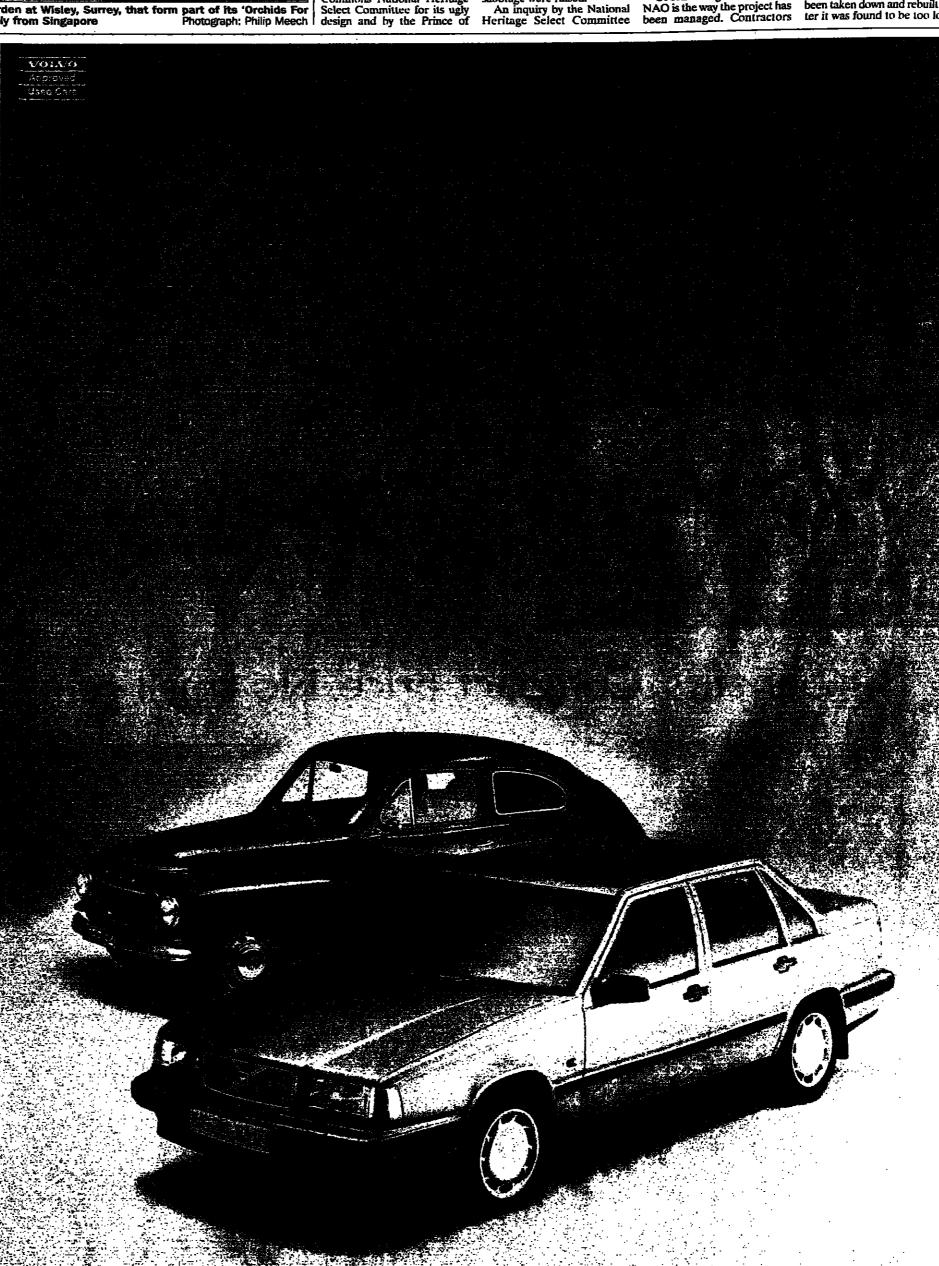
thony Kenny, the former mas-ter of Balliol, was detained by the Czech authorities for participating in one of the cerebral at-homes organised by Tomin, who holds a doctorate in philosophy from Charles University, Prague. But Tomin is no longer courted by the Oxbridge

establishment. Resting his beloved tattered copy of the Republic on his lap, Mr Tomin drank a glass of salt-ed water and proclaimed: "This is definitely the cheapest way to build self-discipline." The

hunger strike is scheduled for seven days, and is to be repeated if necessary. The protest centres on the Czech's analysis that the Phaedrus is not - as Oxford have taught for the last 200 years - a later work of the Greek thinker but is in fact one of his earliest works. "The university are scared to let me present my analysis," he said.

The accusation is rejected by Kathy Wilkes, a philosophy tu-tor at St Hilda's College, Oxford. She knows Mr Tomin from his secret seminar days in Prague and now believes the dissident misses the old days of state per-secution. "He can't properly

function here," she said. Currently surviving on £51.08 social security, the unemployed dissident is determined to prolong his struggle. "Next year's strike is going to be even longer," he said. The things people will do to avoid making a decision over Best or Cantona.



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Peace in Bosnia: Muslim family's horrific flight from fallen enclave shows why Dayton deal's promises can never be fulfilled



### Cold comfort for a Srebrenica survivor

**EMMA DALY** 

Besir Johic is one of the very few Bosnian Muslims forced to flee the advancing rebel Serb army who has had the opportunity to re-visit the home to which, in theory, he can return under the Dayton peace deal. It was not a happy experience.
"The whole place had changed so much. I tried to find

our two houses, and they just weren't there any more. There were shells and mines instead." Mr Johic is also one of the newest refugees in Tuzia: he crossed the front line 10 days ago with seven comrades, iniding his brother Omer, after four months spent in enemy territory following the exodus from the fallen enclave of

beyond the

conventional

and his mother for the first time since he fled the Serb assault on Srebrenica. The Johic family lived in

Cerska, a small town in eastern Bosnia that fell to the Serbs in January 1993. As has become the custom among Bosnians fleeing for their lives, the family split up: Mr Johic, his wife, mother and brothers walked south to Srebrenica, Asmir and other relatives slogged through the mountains north to Tuzla.

The child was almost frozen because it was winter - my sister-in-law had to drag him along," Mr Johic said. The boy, slight and quiet, obviously inherited the genes that enabled his father to survive for 131 days

Srebrenica in July. Yesterday he saw his 13-year-old son, Asmir, for the first time in three years, where the eight men found shelter in an abandoned mill, and foraging for food by night.
"I didn't believe I would ever

see my son and mother again it was so painful for me. My mother didn't cry, but I did." Mr Johic said. "But of course I was thrilled, it was super."
Beside him sat Mrs Johic, tiny
and wrinkled, her head swathed

in a scarf.

"I had three sons – one is dead," she said. "I was so happy, I didn't believe I would ever see my sons again. I was holding back my tears. I was strong, but inside I felt my heart would explode. My son Ragib died ...
The three brothers set off

from Srebrenica together, joinfrom Srebrenica together, joining a column striking out through mountains and forests for safety in government-held territory. It was shelled by Serb forces and shattered. Ragib was wounded. His brothers listened helplessives he died at the tened helplessly as he died at the Serbs' hands.

As Mr Johic recounted the As Mr Johic recounted the horrifying tale of his long march, Ragib's widow sat at the back of the room, weeping silently over her baby daughter, Belma. A Srebrenica household is always filled with women: so few of their menfolk survived the Serb onslaught in July. Aziza Hasic, a perfect grandmother, with apple cheeks and a jolly smile, has opened her house, in a small village near the front-line town of Gracanica, to front-line town of Gracanica, to

the Johic family.

"Of course we are very happy [with the Dayton deal]. We have not left our houses during the war and we want to stay here," she said. "If the Johics can go home, they will. But if they can't, then they can stay

here." But it is not so simple.
Old Mrs Johic has lived at a school in the village since her arrival from Srebrenica in July, and she wants a home of her own. It is an impossible request in Tuzla, where of the 700,000 people living in the region, 235,000 are refugees. There is

#### Fears over CHILDREN Serbia's poison gas factories

CHRISTOPHER BELLAMY Defence Correspondent

Serbia still has factories able to manufacture chemical weapons, including nerve gas - a potentially devastating threat to peace in the region, a television investigation has revealed.

Tonight's World in Action programme on ITV includes film of the nerve-gas plants which can make Sarin, a deadly nerve agent. A visit to an old chemical factory, now deserted, north of Mostar, in Bosnia, proved that the former Yugoslavia made Sarin, while interviews with former workers indicate the existence of factories in Serbia which can still make the agent.

Major David Craig, chemical weapons adviser to the British Force Commander in the Gulf war, Sir Peter de la Billière, travelled with the television team to the abandoned factory between Muslim and Serb lines north of Mostar. They took samples that were analysed by the Swedish National Defence Establishment, which confirmed that Sarin was made there.

Major Craig told World in Action: "What you have discovered is that Yugoslavia was producing weapons of mass destruction and that Serbia still has the capability to do so." The programme also interviewed former workers in

chemical factories and obtained Yugoslav army documents and manuals which detail Serbia's ability to fight a chemical war. The Yugoslav chemical weapons programme was linked

with Iraq on the development of the M-87 Orkan multiple rocket launcher, which was used by rebel Serbs in Croatia's Krajina region to fire rockets at Zagreb, the Croatian capital. A former Yugoslav presi-

dent, Stipe Mesic, a Croat, described how he made a secret trip to the United States to brief the Pentagon on Yugoslavia's co-operation with Saddam Hussein. Although he was head of state, he had to keep his mission secret from the Yugoslav army. and used a private trip to Austria to board a US aircraft for Washington. Mr Mesic says a full dossier of documents on the Yugoslav chemical arsenal was handed over to the Pentagon.

But how is the family to return to Cerska, which is to stay under Serb control? "Never", said Refija, Mr Johic's wife.

"They killed my son; I could never live there," added Mrs Johic. Her son, who screamed in pain as he stripped away the clothes that had rotted on to his align during the three months he skin during the three months he wore them, was more circumspect. "I would return to my

#### Karadzic threat

Pale (AP) - Bosnian Serb leaders demanded international protection for Serb-held parts of Sarajevo, saying failure to address their concerns could undermine the peace

Serbs demonstrated for the third day in parts of the capital they hold against the Dayton agreement, which foresees a unified Sarajeyo under government control. Serb leaders grudgingly ac-cepted the deal but face opposition from Sarajevo Serbs who fear for their future if their districts revert to government control. "A new solution for Sarajevo must be found," Radovan Karadzic said after meeting representatives from the Serb-held districts. In the meantime, he said, Serbs would not withdraw their troops, as foreseen under the Dayton accord.

The US Assistant Secretary of State, Richard Holbrooke, chief negotiator at the peace talks, ruled out any changes to the plan, to be signed in Pans later this month.

of work to be done to repair it." he said. But could he live under Serb rule? I don't know. It would be very difficult, because not only my brother was killed. Many others were, too." The return of refugees is vi-

tal if Bosnia is to survive in a meaningful way. But it is also unimaginable. Buildings can be restored but the Nato troops dispatched to enforce the peace cannot repair lives ripped apart



As Christmas approaches, the Independent is asking readers to support four charities working to help child victims of the wars in former Yugoslavia:

Save the Children is focusing its efforts on children who have been separated from their families, and on counselling and reuniting them; The Red Cross is running the

largest humanitarian operation in the region, looking after refugee camps and linking people through its famous messaging network; War Child plans to build a £2.5m music-therapy centre

in Mostar, and to send

urgently needed prosthetics to

wounded children in the Tuzia area: Child Advocacy International aims to bring up to 100 sick children to Britain for treatment

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### Bonn heads for rough ride over EMU fines plan

SARAH HELM

Germany's latest attempt to lay down the law over how the ngle currency will operate, including a plan for heavy fines on countries which fail to obey the rules, is likely to meet a cool response when it is discussed for the first time by finance minis-

Bonn's idea for a "stability pact" between states is intended to protect the single currency from inflationary pressure after the launch, planned for January 1999. Most countries accept the idea of such a pact but some of them fear the rules being proposed may be too strict for them to keep. Were Britain to join the single currency and then fail Germany's stability-pact rules, for example, it could be fined about £1.5bn.

The issue is likely to dominate today's meeting in Brussels, which is supposed to take crucial decisions on single currency planning ahead of the Madrid summit next month. A dispute could raise new questions about whether the 1999

The key element of the is deliberately pressing for stability pact is a proposal to key unacceptably tough conditions fines on countries which allow to delay monetary union, or their budget deficits to exceed 3 per cent of gross domestic product. For every percentage point over the limit, a member would be fined 0.25 per cent of its GDP. The fine would be returned if the deficit fell to 3 per cent or below

within two years. If the country failed to meet the target again, it would lose the money, which

would be go to the EU budget. Member states are trying to maintain solidarity over the single currency in the run up to the Madrid summit, but France and Ireland have already signailed doubts about some elements of the pact and Italy has been unenthusiastic. Germany is being privately criticised for pushing rules beyond those envisaged in the

Maastricht treaty. The European Commission has welcomed the principle of the pact, but has been pointedly silent about the proposed level of the fines, saying only that the penalties should be "appropriate", as envisaged under to delay monetary union, or torpedo it altogether.

It is more likely that Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, has calculated he must impose stringent rules on his partners to convince the German public that the single currency will be as strong as the mark. German public opinion has become increasingly nervous about the dangers of an unpredictable monetary union.

Several important questions have to be settled by finance ministers before the Madrid summit, including agreement on the timetable for the run-up to the 1999 launch, when excha rates will be locked, and the schedule for introducing notes and coins three years later.

talk about today is what to call the currency. Governments are committed to deciding a name in Madrid. In September, it seemed that it had been settled in favour of the "Euro", Germany having refused to accept the original idea of Ecu. However, an opinion poll Maastricht. Some observers last week showed German vothave speculated that Germany ers preferred the Ecu after all.



designs by Michelangelo, its facade had been eroded by weather and pollution over the centuries

### Kohl battles to curb mounting panic about loss of the mark

SARAH HELM

On the noticeboard of the Finance Ministry in Bonn the posters display a confident message: "The single currency: as strong as the mark." Inside, however, confidence that the single currency will indeed be as strong as the mark is ebbing

The German political élite is bracing itself for the real possibility that the 1999 launch date may have to be delayed. Fears that France will not be ready continue to mount. Even if the target can be met, Germany is beginning to ask: "What about the day after?" Will the single currency sink under a flood of inflationary pressures?

Meanwhile, the insecurity of the German people about the loss of the German mark shows little sign of abating. Germany is to launch a big publicity campaign in the new year to convince the public, but many

fear it may be too little, too late. Chancellor Helmut Kohl refuses to concede publicly that the 1999 start date can be postponed, for fear of reducing the momentum among other states. Delay would be a devastating blow to his faith in the absolute need for greater European integration. While the German people fear the loss of the mark, symbol of their post-war success, the Chancellor feels it must be subsumed in a single currency to prevent history repeating itself. states would recede.

**Monetary union:** Campaign to woo public may be too late

He believes an ever-stronger mark would intimidate neighbouring states, causing them to unite against his country.

Although some in Germany claim that a delay would not be disastrous, and that economic monetary union (EMU) would be back on the table in a few years, most European leaders know that postponing the single currency would raise fundamental questions about the whole future of the union. The case for greater political integration would be undermined. and the prospect of enlarging Europe to include new member

public rhetoric about meeting the 1999 target and the private essments of German officials is startling. In a series of discussions with the Independent, senior German officials and analysts spoke frankly of their doubts. One senior official in Bonn put the chances of launching EMU in 1999 at "fiftyfifty". Another said a delay of two or three years should be considered. A third said there was "still a chance" the target could be achieved, but it was slim. Some believe Mr Kohl may be forced to ask for a postponement as early as the second

The gap between Germany's half of next year, when France's progress on meeting the eco-

nomic tests can be gauged. Jacques Chirac, the French President, has shown he is ready to take tough measures to bring down the budget deficit to meet the ceiling of 3 per cent of gross domestic product set for those wishing to join EMU. But as they watched last week's French strikes in protest against Mr Chirac's cuts, officials in Bonn had little faith Paris will succeed. "There is no leeway", one said.
"It all depends on France. If France meets the test we will start. If it does not, it will not

The German government hopes to reassure the public through proposals from Theo Waigel, the Finance Minister, for a "stability pact" to bind EMU member states to strict economic rules. But Bonn knows it cannot insure itself against political decisions tak-

en by individual members in the

future, or against the inflation-

ary effect sudden borrowing in

some countries could cause. "We want precautions to prevent this. But of course there is no absolute guarantee that the single currency will be as strong as the mark," a senior finance official said.

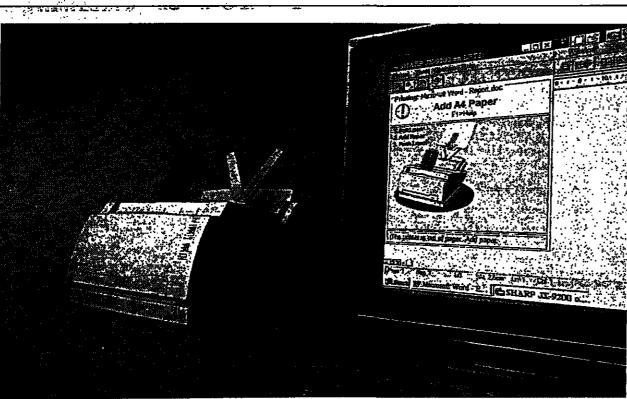
Europe would move towards a federal-style political union in parallel with monetary union. giving Germans more guarantees of European co-operation and stability. But progress on politi-cal union is logiammed. The Ger-man public, meanwhile, is calling for every guarantee that it can

Discussion about the single currency has suddenly burst onto the streets, revealing deep fears and confusion. People are asking what will happen to their

savings and their pensions. "They are very confused. They don't even have a name for the currency," Martin Suskind, of the newspaper, Süddeutsche

Kohl may have resisted launching a public debate sooner. precisely because he feared it might reveal a groundswell of Euro-scepticism in Germany. He is widely expected to stand again in Germany's elections in 1998, when he would like to campaign as the unifier of Europe. But if the voters are still against the single currency when the campaign starts, he may have to heed their fears.

"Kohl's nightmare is that circumstances develop where he has no power to convince his own people of the necessity of the single currency or the union," Mr Suskind said, "Then the experiment would be on the



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# Princess finds a Welsh welcome in Patagonia 1115 I

It was like a little corner of Wales, a lush green oasis amidst the barren wastes of windswept Patagonia, and the harmonic strains of the Welsh national anthem drifted through the pines. There was no international rugby match, just a small but tuneful welcoming choir for the visiting Princess of Wales.

Some local Argentine offi-cials sang along. Even a few homesick Welsh reporters and photographers mouthed the words. But the royal lips remained firmly shut

"I don't think she speaks Welsh. I wonder if she's having it taught to William and Harry, Luned Roberts de Gonzalez, a local Weish teacher and member of the choir, said with a mischievous twinkle in her eye. "She could send them here to learn." Asked for her opinion of the Princess of Wales, the eyes twinkled again as she drew her fingers across her lips as though closing a zip.
On normal days, when there

are no princesses around, Mrs Roberts's face is the best-known in Gaiman, a small town founded by hardy Welsh nationalists who fled cultural persecution 130 years ago. Her great-grandfather was the first to arrive on the Atlantic seaboard of Patagonia in 1863, in an advance party seeking a home as far as possible from the English usurpers.

It was the first settlement in Patagonia. There was nothing here but flat, dusty brushland. and the native Tehuelche Indians were initially hostile. Things



Celtic outpost: The Princess of Wales shaking hands with well-wishers when she visited the Welsh community in Gaiman at the week

weekend as they gave the

picked up after a woman, Rachel Jenkins, noticed a slight slope in the Chubut river, and that eventually turned the valley into the fertile strip it is today. The inhabitants are now

farmers and, increasingly, professionals as other Argentines have ventured south to create the settlers dug irrigation canals a community of small businesses and industries.

The Welsh settlers are well shepherds, fruit and vegetable though they speak Spanish with quite gushing, welcome to their

a lilting Welsh accent, and have hardly changed their attitude to the British monarchy. But they showed a fine blend of Welsh little community more than ards saying "The Malvinas 1,000 miles south of Buenos [Falklands] are Argentine." Aires and a little further from the Falkland Islands. manners and dignity at the

The only protest to greet the Princess was a silent one by

No one was quite sure why the Princess had come. They preferred to play down her title and pretend she was just an-other tourist. "At least she's Photograph: Daniel Muzio/AP

year-old Orwig Griffiths, who joined Diana for tea and cakes in a typically Welsh tea house called Ty Te Caerdydd. Well, at least for half a cup of tea and no cake. Although the Welsh tea and truly Argentines now, although they sneak Snanish with duite gushing, welcome to their Weish community, holding placthough they sneak Snanish with duite gushing, welcome to their weish community, holding placthough they sneak Snanish with duite gushing.

Tegai, runs a Welsh immigrant museum in what used to be the Gaiman railway station, when the Princess expressed particular lar interest on Sunday in 19th-century Welsh moustach cup. Mrs Roberts herself run the little Camwy school, which has helped stage a revival of the Welsh language so that the cul-tural identity of the 1,000 or so descendants of the settlers does not evaporate.

Although they have kept their traditions — choirs, annual eisteddfods, their own church. es and afternoon tea — only 200 people still speak Welsh in the town. With the help of Gwilyn Roberts, a retired teacher from Cardiff who moved here to give free Welsh classes, man more have begun learning.

Pointing to their Welsh culture and Argentine nationality, Mr. Roberts said there could be a lesson for Falkland islanders. "They were getting along quite well with Argentina before the conflict," she said. Perhaps the life of the Welsh community here could serve as an example for a peaceful solution. Perhaps, if there's something going on behind the scenes, that's why the visit was organised."
The Princess of Wales yes-

terday visited the Casa de Vida (House of Life) in Buenos Aires, a centre which uses psychotherapy to treat drug addicts and encourages them to learn useful skills. She was due back

### Persons Wojciech Jaruzelski

### History comes full circle for Walesa's old sparring partner

With the obvious exception of who replaced Gen Jaruzelski as Aleksander Kwasniewski, there was probably nobody in Poland who enjoyed last week's presidential election more than General Wojciech Jaruzelski, the country's last Communist leader. Mr Kwasniewski was one of the bright young hopefuls whose first taste of poweras youth and sports minister came during the latter years of

Gen Jaruzelski's rule. His dramatic success was made all the sweeter by the fact that the man he defeated in the election was Lech Walesa, the former leader of the Solidarity movement which toppled Comnunism in Poland and the man

president in 1990. It must have seemed as

though history had come full cir-cle. After humiliating defeats at the hands of Mr Walesa, the general had the satisfaction of seeing his old adversary getting a feeling of defeat on the othhis come-uppance. And for all Mr Kwasniewski's

claims to be a fully reformed Western-style social democrat, his victory marked the almost total rehabilitation of Poland's former Communists who, having won the largest number of seats in parliamentary elections in 1993, had now captured the presidency.

Gen Jaruzelski, who still

sports the dark glasses that made him such a distinctive Cold War leader, did not want to crow. "There is now a chance for real understanding," he told Gazeta Wyborcza. "But instead of triumphalism on one side and er, there must be a prevailing

sense that democracy won."

Gen Jaruzelski giving lectures on democracy? Was this the man who devoted almost all his career to defending a system of one-party rule? Was this the man who was defence minister in 1970 when troops fired on food-price rioters, and who, 11 years later, imposed martial law to crush Solidarity?

It was a bit rich. For many Poles, it simply rubbed salt in what were already very sore wounds and intensified the feeling that the old guard, having never properly been made to pay for the past, was now back

in the driving seat. Certainly Gen Jaruzelski, now 71, has not yet been brought to book over his past. Since losing power, he has found himself the subject of numerous investigations concerning the 1970 killings, the imposition of martial law and the strange disappearance of thousands of Central Committee files. None of these investigations, however, has led to a tion of martial law, under which

ever doing so under a President Kwasniewski are considered

Apart from occasional appearances before investigating tribunals, Gen Jaruzelski has sought a low profile over the past five years, and spent much of his early retirement en-sconced in his modest Warsaw villa writing his memoirs.

In his book, Why Martial Law?, he argued that in December 1981, in the grip of an economic crisis and a Solidarity-inspired strike wave, Poland was close to being invaded by the Soviet Union. His declara-

including Mr Walesa, were imprisoned or placed under house arrest, was the "lesser of two evils", he argued. And although he regretted (and apologised for) the suffering and deaths caused, he insisted that it could have been much worse. A lot of Gen Jaruzelski's

countrymen agree with him. Rather than reviling him, many see him as something of a na-tional hero. When Why Martial Law? was published in 1993, it quickly became a best-seller and the general's popularity ratings soared.

In addition to pre-empting a possible Soviet invasion in 1981,

thousands of Solidarity activists. many Poles also concede that, although he fought hard to maintain Communist Party rule, Gen Jaruzelski was able to recognise the end when it came. In early 1989, he went against many of the hardliners within his party to press for landmark round-table talks with Solidarity aimed at devising some form of power-sharing. In the partially free parliamentary elec-tions of that year, Solidaria romped to victory, and within three months Poland had the first non-Communist government to be formed in Eastern Europe for over 40 years.

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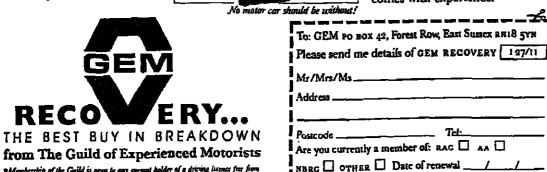
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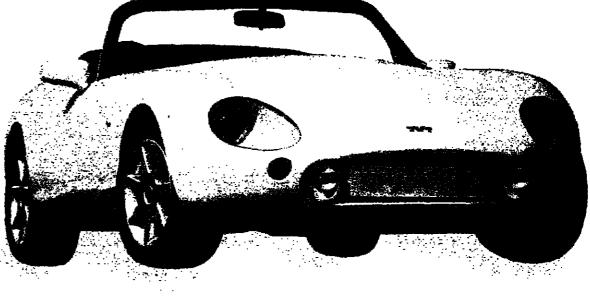
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## Mandela guns for Nigerian dictator

ROBERT BLOCK Johannesburg

The extent to which President Nelson Mandela has dedicated himself to bringing down Nigeria's military ruler. General Sani Abacha, was made clear vesterday in two short sen-tences. "Abacha is sitting on a volcano," the President told Johannesburg's Sunday Independent. "And I am going to explode it underneath him."

The interview, also broadcast on the BBC World Service, was the latest sign that Mr Mandela — stung by criticism that he did not act forcefully enough to have stopped Nigeria from executing Ken Saro-Wiwa and eight other minority-rights activists — was now going after Gen Ahacha with guns blazing.

It represented a complete about-turn by Mr Mandela, who only a few weeks ago had urged the world not to push the Nigerian military regime into a

Mr Mandela vowed that South Africa would press ahead with its campaign for "strong actions", including oil sanctions, against Nigeria to ensure that democracy was attained in "the shortest possible time".

'What we are now proposing are short and sharp measures which will produce the results Nigerians and the world desire. We are dealing with an illegitimate, barbaric, arrogant, military dictatorship which has murdered activists, using a kangaroo court and using false evidence," he told the newspaper.

At the same time, he rejected criticism by Nigerian opposition leaders and intellectuals that South Africa was to blame for Saro-Wiwa's death. Instead he criticised the Nigerian resistance for being weak and ineffectual, and said the outcome of his campaign to break Gen Abacha ultimately depended on the Nigerians themselves. "It is of no use for Nigerian leaders to shout from abroad and not to ensure that the fires of resistance are burning inside of

Nigeria," Mr Mandela said.

He drew direct parallels with the experience of his African National Congress (ANC) fight against successive apartheid governments. "We did not give in because international opinion would not have been mobilised if there was no vigorous and effective resistance movement inside the country. That is what is lacking in Nigeria, and Nigerian leaders that are blaming South Africa and its president are merely diverting attention from their weakness: from their failure to do what all democrats do -- to ensure that there are prominent leaders inside the country who are prepared to face the music, and to challenge Abacha.'

Mr Mandela also lashed out at the Shell petroleum company for its decision to go ahead with a \$4bn (£2,5bn) gas project in Nigeria, despite worldwide calls for the project to be shelved. He said he told Shell executives in Johannesburg last week that South Africa expected the company to suspend the project as a mark of projest.

"And when they hesitated to do so. I warned them that we are going to take action against them in this country, because we can't allow people to think in terms of their gains when the very lives of human beings are involved. That is the extent to which I have gone in this

Mr Mandela has threatened to call for a boycott of Shell in South Africa. Following the meeting. Shell South Africa placed full-page advertisements in the South African press, deThousands turn out to cheer Burma's champion of democracy



Freedom wave: Burma's dissident leader, Aung San Suu Kyi, greets more than 2,000 supporters outside her house in Rangoon. Ms Suu Kyi last week criticised plans by the military regime to reconvene a convention aimed at drafting a new constitution. Most Burmese dissidents have dismissed it as a farce, as it will sit only at the will of the military

Photograph: Richard Vogel/AP

### 35 die as rebel jets bomb besieged Kabul

Kabul - Rebel jets bombed residential areas of Kabul yesterday, killing at least 35 people and wounding more than 140 in the heaviest air raid on the besieged Afghan capital in more than a year.

A Defence Ministry spokesman blamed the rebel Islamic Taliban militia, who are attempting to topple President

Burhanuddin Rabbani, for the no such assistance. At least 12 ble but found only corpses, inattack. Nine bombs were dropped by SU-22 planes, none hitting a military target, he said. The ministry also accused neighbouring Pakistan of responsibility, saying it had "strong evidence" indicating Islamabad's technical and financial aid in repairing the SU-type jets Taliban seized from the western town of Herat in August. Pakistan rejected the charge, saying it had given

people died when one bomb destroyed three homes and severely damaged four others in the western suburb of Wazirabad. Neighbours said the device was a 1,100lb parachute bomb that exploded in the air. A similar bomb killed seven people when it destroyed a three-storey mud-brick building

in the central district of Qalai

Fatuliah. Dozens of rescuers

due frantically through the rub-

cluding the bodies of two "This is the most barbaric

war," cried one neighbour as he watched the rescuers cover a two-year-old child dragged from the dust. "The Taliban are more cruel than Ghengis Khan. Even the Russians were not as bad as these people," he said. Two smaller parachute bombs exploded above the Supreme Court compound in Qalae Za-

man Khan, east of the city, killing seven people.

The air raid followed two nights of heavy fighting between the Taliban and government forces. The Taliban is attacking Kabul on at least four fronts in a bid to capture the city and force Mr Rabbani from power. It has also imposed a fuel blockade on the capital in an apparent attempt to freeze the defenders into submission over the coming winter,

#### IN BRIEI

#### Rabbis questioned

Jerusalem — Two rabbis suspected of issuing a religious ruling before the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin that justified his killing are being interrogated, Israel radio reported. Police are investigating whether one or several right-wing rabbis issued a ruling under Jewish law that allows the killing of someone defined as a rodef, or pursuer, to prevent him causing the deaths of his victims.

#### Hostages 'will die'

New Delhi - Kashmiri separatist rebels holding four Westerners hostage, including Britons Keith Mangan and Paul Wells, reiterated a threat to kill the captives if the government continued to reject their demands. The threat was conveyed to a government negotiator in Kashmir who spoke by telephone to a guerrilla of the Al-Faran group.

#### Rail peace hope

Paris - French state railways agreed to hold negotiations with unions a day early on the third day of a strike that all but choked off weekend train traffic. Only a quarter of trains were running on most lines, but some were halted entirely. AP

#### Back in the ring

Abidjan — Ivory Coast held its second multi-party general elec-tion, with opposition parties hoping to break the ruling De-mocratic Party's post-independence monopoly on power. The opposition parties were back in the ring after boycotting last month's presidential election. which the ruling-party leader, Henri Konan Bedie, won against a backdrop of clashes that killed 35 people. Reuter

#### No regrets

Santiago — Chile's former military ruler, General Augusto Pinochet, said he felt sorrow for Chileans killed under his regime, but would do nothing differently if history repeated itself. Celebrating his 80th birthday he said he was proud of averting a civil war when he overthrew President Salvador Allende in 1973.

Pay hikes at the top Harare — Zimbabwe's President Robert Mugabe has fuelled public anger by awarding himself and his top officials hefty salary rises while cancelling Christmas bonuses for ordinary civil servants and urging the private sector to hold down pay

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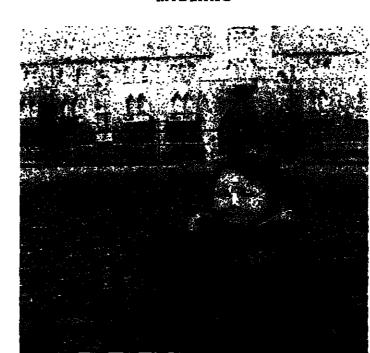
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d on our understanding of current legislation and tax practice. Future changes in legislation, tax levels and practice could affect the details quoted. AW/31





### Are you expecting the State to pay for your child's university education?

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generate a regular income for your child or to produce a lump sum. Essentially a unit trust-linked investment, it has several advantages. It not only has the potential to outperform a deposit account, but is also far more tax-efficient because it can take advantage of your child's £3,525 annual income tax allowance - a considerable benefit. Please note: your investment can go down as well as up and may fall below the amount originally invested.

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### obituaries/gazette

### Louis Malle

There is a unique paradox to the Fontainebleau and at the Sorten been cited as an influence career of Louis Malle, in that the film-critical establishment is split almost evenly between those who believe him to have less categorical, who believe him to have been overrated.

For his admirers, the apparent absence of an instantly per-ries of extensive sea voyages, ceptible directorial personality in his work was a mark of the director's versatility rather than his anonymity, the sign of a healthy refusal to have his films circumscribed by an overly refined fetishisation of subjectmatter. For his detractors, he was a director possessed of a sensibility but bereft of an identifiable style in which to enshrine it (unlike many current young Hollywood directors, who are positively brimming with style but deficient in sensibility).

For those of us who have never been entirely convinced by the claims of his champions. Malle was an undeniably intelligent artist, subtle and observant, and a superb technician the was the most celebrated graduate of IDHEC, the prestigious if not notably prolific French film school), who made films that were stylish instead of in any individual style. And, given the partiality of film critics for the eponymous qualifier (Bressonian, Fordian, Renoiresque, and so on), it's not by chance, nor merely because his monosyllabic name scarcely offers promising material for the exercise, that no one has ever employed, about his own or anyone else's work, the adjective Mallian" or "Mallesque". Put bluntly, it would be meaningless.

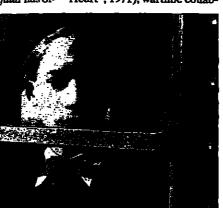
Louis Malle was born, in 1932, in Thumeries, into one of France's most privileged industrialist families. He was educated at the Jesuit College in and durable triumph

bonne (where he majored in political science), before studying film at IDHEC between 1951 and 1953. On graduating, he was been underrated and those, no chosen by the oceanographer Jacques-Yves Cousteau to be his technical assistant and effectively his cameraman on a seand he proved so indispensable to Cousteau that he ended up sharing with him the directori-al credit on Le Monde de silence ("The Silent World", 1956), the most famous of all undersea documentaries. He also served his apprenticeshp as an assistant to Robert Bresson on Un Condamné à mon s'est échappé ("A Man Escaped", 1956), then made his first solo feature, Ascenseur pour l'éch-aufaud ("Lift to the Scaffold"),

a slick and glossy thriller released in 1958. That was just one year before the annus mirabilis of the New Wave, 1959, the year of Truffaut's Les 400 Coups, Godard's A bout de souffle and Resnais's Hiroshima mon amour, and Ascenseur pour l'échaufaud has of-

on the movement. The question. however, is arguably one of precedence, not influence. Maile got there first. Yet, notwithstanding its fresh and freewheeling location photography, its modish Miles Davis score and the New Wavish presence of Jeanne Moreau, the basically conventional Ascenseur is as fatally caught between two very different "floors" of French film-making as its murderous protagonist is trapped in a stalled elevator. This was to be, throughout his

long career, the fundamental problem with Malle. Though he frequently tackled controversial subjects - explicit sexuality in Les Amants ("The Lovers", 1958, the film which made his name), suicide in Le Feu Follet ("The Fire Within", 1963), revolutionary politics in Viva Maria! (1965, teaming Moreau with Brigitte Bardot), anarchism in Le Volcur ("The Thief", 1967, with Jean-Paul Belmondo), incest in Le Souffle au coeur ("Murmur of the Heart", 1971), wartime collab-



Gaspard Menasse in Malle's Au revolr les enfants (1987): a real

oration in Lacombe, Lucien (1974), child prostitution in Pretty Baby (1978, his first American movie), the Holo-caust in Au revoir, les enfants (1987), the 1968 riots in Milou en mai (1990) and middle-class adultery in Damage (1992) - the potential for scandal was invariably defused by his precautionary classicism, his knack for knowing, in Cocteau's expression, just how far to go too far, his dainty little three-stepsforward-two-steps-back minuet around the most shocking implications of his themes.

Thus Bardot and Moreau are revolutionaries in Viva Maria! - but, given that the movie is as close to being a cartoon as is conceivable without actually being drawn, not reallv. Belmondo is an anarchist in Le voleur - but not entirely. The adolescent hero of Le Souffle au coeur may indeed sleep with his mother - but it's all giggled off in a closing tableau as though, in a family as heroically undysfunctional as that portrayed in the movie, incest were a peccadillo on the same larky level as belching at the dinner table. (Oedipus Schmoedipus so long as you love your mother!) Lucien Lacombe is a collaborator – but he could just as easily, as unreflectingly, have been a resistant. The prepubescent Brooke Shields is a whore in Pretty Baby - then again, she somehow also contrives to remain just an innocent little girl. The évènements of May 1968 form merely an offscreen rumble in Milou en mai. And, with his script for Damage (based on Josephine Hart's best-selling novel), David Hare shows himself to be, as an an-alyst of marital infidelity, a di-

Fair's fair, though. There are incidental pleasures to be savoured in nearly all of these films and Malle had his share of real and durable triumphs. Zazie dans le Métro (1960) is an uncanny visualisation of Queneau's (on paper) unfilmable novel, whose success can be measured by the fact that it does not send one back to the book. Lacombe, Lucien and Au revoir les enfants are still the two finest (fictional) films about the Occupation. Black Moon (1975) is a weird and wonderful Carrollian fantasy, which, if Maile's personal favourite of his own work, has never been properly appreciated. Atlantic City (1980), about a gentle old gangster adrift in the garish resort of the title, is graced by a lovely. late performance by Burt Lancaster. My Dinner with André (1981) is a droil conceit, a genuine dinner for two on which we, the spectators, are invited to eavesdrop. And his numerous documentaries, particularly the six-hour television series Phantom India (1969), doubtless merit

reappraisal.
Right to the end of his career, Malle was therefore an unclassifiable talent, a director for whom even posterity may have some difficulty finding the relevant niche in the Pantheon of cinema history, for he was neither a journeyman nor an auteur, neither one thing nor another - just like his films.

Gilbert Adair Louis Malle, film director: born Thumeries, Nord, France 30 October 1932; married Anne-Marie Deschodt (one son, one daugh-ter; marriage dissolved 1967), 1980 Candice Bergen (one daughter); died Beverty Hills, California 23 November 1995.



### Lord O'Brien of Lothbury

rect successor to Sardou and

Henry Arthur Jones.

In the Bank of England's long transition from independence in the 1930s to renewed independence in the 1990s, the seven years of Leslie O'Brien's tenure as Governor after 1966 marked the point when the Bank began again to be a coherent player in the game between Government and the financial markets at home and abroad.

Yet what was seen by ministers and Treasury civil servants as a desirable development in the late 1960s was stultified for a time by the extraordinary circumstances of the inflationary boom and its collapse at the end

That O'Brien, a quiet reserved man in public, was a professional central banker with 40 years' experience ranging from secretary to Montagu Norman to Deputy Governor in 1964, via the overseas and foreign exchange departments, and seven years' service as Chief Cashier. ensured his appointment by Harold Wilson in 1966.

The ill-concealed friction between his predecessor, the Earl of Cromer, and the Prime Minister, as well as the meritocratic turn of that Labour government, disqualified other. more patrician contenders from the merchant banks.

But if Wilson and the Treasury mandarins expected bureaucratic docility, they were disappointed. O'Brien had seen how Norman had shaped the Bank to state requirements during the Second World War and, though he had deplored Cromer's methods, he shared his two predecessors' mistrust about the way the Keynesian prescriptions had been misused as a cure-all during the post-war period. Wholly loyal once government decisions had

been made, O'Brien remained trol state borrowing and monrobustly unafraid of ministers and Chanceliors of the Exchequer so long as discussions continued.

The July 1966 crisis brought deflation and grievously damaged Labour's national plan. Dependent on American help. Britain could no longer act autonomously, while sterling had been reduced to the status of an adjunct to the dollar. Foreign competitors, led by American banks, threatened the City's own market predominance, while the British government stabilise the international financial system.

In these conditions, O'Brien had to advise on four main poiicy areas: how to stabilise sterling and Britain's remaining sterling debts; how to manage the economy more efficiently in a rapidly changing environment; how to renew the flow of investment to domestic industry; and how to modernise City markets and financial institutions before they lost market share. At least until 1968, he also suffered the handicaps of subordination to the Treasury and deprecation by the Labour Party Left for his advocacy of

monetary and fiscal prudence. The sterling balances were stabilised, partly thanks to O'Brien's skilful diplomacy in Basle in 1968, but sterling remained at risk: after the 1967 devaluation (against which O'Brien struggled without effect) he and Harold Lever, Wilson's financial emissary, helped to avert a second devaluation in March 1968, negotiating with the US authorities. But the Governor's arguments about failure to coney supply had an increasing effect under the new Chancellor, Roy Jenkins, not least because of the more explicit tone taken by the Bank's own publication the Quarterly Bulletin.

It was clear by 1969 that O'Brien supported a permanent but flexible monetary policy and a market-driven element in bank rate. But substantial differences existed between Bank and Treasury as O'Brien and his team (now better integrated than in the past) evolved what became Competition and Credwas largely excluded from it Control. CCC's main aim was OECD countries' attempts to partial deregulation, to allow bank rate to be determined more by market demand for credit - especially from industry - and less by political remirements. At the same time. it was hoped that British banks would be freed from controls on lending, to compete more effectively with unrestricted foreign institutions and fringe banks at home operating under less stringent Board of Trade supervision, in an interbank market which saw deposits rise tenfold in the decade after

As by-products, O'Brien hoped that the fringe banks and the parallel markets in local authority and corporate loans could be brought under bank supervision, and industry encouraged to rely less on overdraft finance, more on the medium-term loans he expected would lead to innovation and structural adjustment. At the same time, long overdue but cautious reforms began in the City, after the shocks of Anthony Crosland's probing into banks' real profits, and revival of the 1959 Mergers and Takeover Panel. To counter

ray, publisher, 1778; Sir Charles



what he saw as a threat to the City ethos of self-regulation and to the Bank's traditional role, O'Brien sought to modernise the Bank's own services, in particular through what became the Institutional Investors Working Party, which aimed to improve the flows and quality

of investment. Launched by the new Conservative Chancellor Anthony Barber in 1971, CCC differed in many ways from O'Brien's plan and had to be implemented at a uniquely unfavourable time: the Treasury even felt compelled to reinvent bank

rate under the title Minimum Lending Rate in 1972, and a year later asked O'Brien to suspend CCC altogether. By then O'Brien's optimism, based on admiration for Edward Heath's long vision of EEC entry and industrial transformation, had altered. For him. Iain Macleod's unexpected death had been a tragedy, for it left the less experienced Barber in thrall to a prime minister determined to achieve his main objects at all costs and hence predisposed to ignore O'Brien's warnings against monetary laxity.

To his dismay, sterling was floated in June 1972. O'Brien regarded a fixed rate as the basis of sound discipline, but he was not even called back from holiday to advise; nor was he included in the discussions which preceded the 1972 Industry Act. He shared Heath's bafflement that industrial management failed to take advantage of the new credit regime, but disagreed on how to deal with the malign combination of wage inflation and the pyramid of lending, mainly on speculative property, that led to CCC's being called "all competition and no control".

By early 1973 credit was expanding at an unprecedented rate accompanied by a 25.6 per cent increase in money supply, the beneficiaries from a real interest rate of 1.2 per cent being primarily financial and property-sector, together with private individuals, rather than

O'Brien found himself a Cassandra, unable to affect this wildly inflationary process. His remedy was to raise MLF to check the boom but, fearing the knock-on effect on the cost of living, and hence trade-union wage claims, Heath and Barber would not permit it. In its only real success, the Bank pushed the rate to 9 per cent in June 1973 by manipulating the Treasurv Bill rate with Treasury officials' consent. Thereafter, loyalty to the state prevented O'Brien from resigning, with all the public consequences that were to follow. But on his 65th birthday he retired, only halfway through his second

In retirement, active on many boards, O'Brien reflected that the boom might have been

term of office.

brought under control rather than induced to crash with cataclysmic results; but not against the will of a Cabinet whose eyes focused on a wages pact and reduction of unemployment from its post-war peak of one million. His own legacy, the special deposits scheme, and the so-called corset" developed by the next Governor, Gordon Richardson, were applied months too late and may even have intensified the collapse. At issue bad been a struggle

between an increasingly global financial set of realities and a domestically oriented defence of the post-war social settlement. As Governor, O'Brien had helped the Bank to establish its claim to be a guardian of the nation's long-term financial interest, through a new level of expertise and argument, for the first time since the 1930s. Political circumstances denied him the influence that Richardson was later to achieve. Yet O'Brien's important speech to the Belgian Societé Royale, in October 1977, can be seen in retrospect as a marker, linking the independence of central banks to control of money supply and success in the perennial struggle against inflation.

Keith Middlemas Leslie Kenneth O'Brien, banker: born 8 February 1908; staff, Bank of England 1927-73, Deputy Chief Cashier 1951-55. Chief Cashier 1955-62, Executive Director 1962-64, Deputy Govemor 1964-66, Governor 1966-73: GBE 1967; PC 1970: created 1973 Baron O'Brien of Lothbury: President, British Bankers As sociation 1973-80: married 1932 Isabelle Pickett (died 1987; one

son), 1989 Mrs Marjorie Taylor, died 24 November 1995

#### David Nickerson

David Nickerson was the "dealer's dealer who for the last 28 years ran Mallett's Bourdon House, the 18th-century house in Mayfair which is an outpost of Mallett's of Bond Street.

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Nickerson had two outstanding qualities; his highly individual and informed "eye" when it came to works of art. and a talent for making and keeping friends from every walk of life from Norfolk countrymen to international clients, all of whom were attracted by his enthusiasm for anything to which he set his mind, from restoring a barn with his own hands to picking gilt out of a Gothic mirror with a dental pick.

He took over Mallett at Bourdon House in 1967. Gradually he transformed its elegant rooms into a Kunstkammer of antiques both witty and eccentric, ranging from the classical antique and fine furniture to the incidental; Cubist Art Deco shagreen dressing cases, collections of walking sticks and carving knives, all the best of their kind. "One never knew what one was going to find when one went in there," remembers

Mark Birley, one of his clients. Bourdon House became much more than an antique shop. It reflected Nickerson's love of objects of quality which interested him because they informed upon the culture from whence they came and the people that had commissioned, made, or owned them. He could perceive visual connections between seemingly disparate objects; fine neo-classical Waterford glass urns lived in harmony next to a Greek head of a slave, an 18th-century gaming set and a Phil May drawing.

Nickerson was born in 1933 in London, but spent his early years in Norfolk. During his first half at Eton, he contracted tuberculosis in one kidney which eventually had to be removed. and spent the next three years in bed. In this period of enforced inactivity he developed his eye and his love of history. He attended Norwich High School, where he played cricket but, as a semi-invalid, had to have a runner, and in 1953 went up to Trinity, Cambridge.

In 1957 he joined Mallett's in Bond Street, under Francis Egerton. Here he began to form his many friendships in the London dealing world and with clients, among whom were Bing Crosby and Bob Hope. Crosby and Hope were at Mallett's one day with Nickerson deciding whether one of them should buy a very large mirror; spontaneously, the three broke into a soft shoe shuffle - to be observed with horror by Francis Royal Personage round.

Nickerson remained at Bour-

don House until June this year, when he became a consultant to Mallett's, Like Bourdon House, his houses in London and Norfolk were full of the unusual and the beautiful. So were his pockets, which always contained mysterious and tiny sculptures, intaglios (one of his passions) and minuscule carved fragments. He loved the beautiful even in fragment form and would buy, for instance, two supporters for a missing clock. knowing that eventually he would find the last piece in the puzzle. Once he bought two bases, suspecting that they had been intended for two Kändler swans. Years later, he found the swans he knew should be perched on them.

> Meredith Etherington-Smith

David George François Nicker-son, antique dealer, born London 24 March 1933: married 1958 Sara Jewson (two sons, one daughter): died London 23 No-

#### Births, **Marriages** & Deaths

IN MEMORIAM

JACK: In memory of Tertius William remembered on this day, Much loved and missed. Husband to Gwyneth, Is-ther to Deborab and Robin, grand-father to Jamle, Nick and Hayley. Announcements for Gezette BIRTHS MARRIAGES & DEATHS (Births Adoptions, Marriages, Deaths, Memo rial services, Wedding auniversaries, in Memoriaan | should be sent in writing to the Gazette Editor, The Independen 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, Lon-don E14 5Df., telephoned to 9171-293 2011 or faxed to 9171-293 2010, and are charged at £6.50 a line (VAT extra). OTHER Gazette announcements (notices, functions, Forthcoming mar-riages, Marriages) must be submitted in writing (or faxed) and are charged at £10 a line, VAT extra. Please include

ROYAL ENGAGERYLEUN and The Dute of Edinburgh, Senior Fellow, attends the Royal Academy of Engineering's New Fellows Disner at Merchant Taylors Hall, Landon ECC. The Duke of Kent, President, attends the Stroke Association's Life After Stroke Association's Life After Stroke Association's Life After Stroke Association in Landon Real Cross Christian in London. ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS ston W. Princess Alexandra, British Red Cri-steends the City of London Red Cross Christa Market Preview Reception at Guildhall, Lond EC. Prince Michael of Kenk, Pesident of the W net Club. Attends the club's Christmas Pinner. 1-5 Cargos Street, London W1

Changing of the Guard

Forthcoming marriages

Mr R. E. Clarkson Webb and Miss R. N. Lancastle The engagement is announced be-tween Ruth Naomi, daughter of Mr and Mrs T Lancastle, of Chelsfield,

Kent, and Richard Edward, son of Mr and Mrs R. Clarkson Webb, of

Birthdays

Cumper, Oxford

Mr John Alderton, actor, 55; Professor John Ashworth, Director, London School of Economics and Political Science, 57; Mr Rodney Bewes, actor, 58; Lord Bridges, former diplomat, 68; The Very Rev Edward Carpenter, former Dean of Westster, 85: Mr Robert Dougail television presenter, 82: Air Marshal Sir Eric Dunn, desence consultant, 68; Mr James Evans, former Chairman, Press Association, 63; Lord Howard de Walden, racchorse owner and breeder, 83; Dr Kim Howells MP, 49; Miss Rosaline Kelly, journalist, 73; Miss Verity Lambert, film producer, 60; Sir John Maddox, Edtor of Nature, 70; Baroness Malialicu OC. 50: Lord Nickson, chairman Clydesdale Bank, 66; Mrs Margaret Parry, former Headmistress, Heathfield School, 76: Mr Alan Simpson, author and scriptwriter, 66; Mr Ernic Wise, comedian, 70.

Anniversaries

Births: Anders Celsius, inventor of the thermometer, 1701; John Mur-

Scott Sherrington, physiologist, 1857; Chaim Weizmann, biochemist and first president of Israel, 1874; Sir William Newenham Montague Or-pen, painter, 1878. Deaths: Horace, poet, 8 BC; Jacopo Sansovino (Tatti), sculptor, 1570; Athanasius Kircher, Jesuit priest, scientist and inventor of the magic lantern, 1680; Henry Winstanley, Eddystone light-house designer, drowned 1703; Andrew Meikle, millwright and threshing machine inventor, 1811; Alexandre Dumas the Younger, nov-elist and playwright, 1895; Alice Christiana Gertrude Meynell, poet and essayist, 1972; Eugene Gladstone O'Neill, playwright, 1953; Theodore Francis Powys, novelist, 1953; Arthur Honegger, composer, 1955; Ross McWhitter, compiler of the Guinness Book of Records, killed by the IRA 1975. On this day: William Shake speare married Anne Hathaway, 1582; two women at Grantham, Lin-coinshire, became the first policewomen, 1914. Today is the Feast Day

Lectures

Victoria and Albert Museum: Michael Keen, "Judaism: The Turah", 2.30cm.

of Saints Barlaam and Josaphat, St

Cungar of Somerset, St Fergus of

Strathern, St James Intercisus, St

Maximus of Riez, St Secundinus or

Sechnall and St Virgil of Salzburg.

Exeter University, Parker Moot Room, Amory Building: Professor Keith Cameron. "Old Wine in New Bottles; the relevance and irrele-vance of the Renaissance", 1.10pm.

The following notes of judgments were prepared by the reporters of the All England Law

Breath test DPP v Berry; QBD(DC) (Simon Brown LJ, Scott Baker and Latham

JD: 30 Oct 1995 A defendant who had a low level of understanding and was unable to understand the breath-test procedure had not been deprived of his right to have his specimen of breath replaced under s 8(2) of the Road Traffic Act 1988 when it was clear his condition had been made worse by his admitted consumption of alcohol. since the deprivation was selfinduced.

Ben Crosland (CPS) for the prosecutor, the defendant did not appear and was not represented.

Contempt Delaney v Delaney; CA (Sir Thomas Bingham MR, Sir John Balcombe); 24 Oct 1995

A county court judge who found a party guilty of contempt er to remand that party in custody while he considered the appropriate sentence to

Philippa Eade (Rustons & Lloyd. rket) for the appellant; James Munby QC (Official Solicitor) as amicus curiae.

Crime R v Finnegan and anor; CA (Crim Div) (Roch L.L. Forbes J. Judge Pow-

nall QC); I Nov 1995 Section 35(1) of the Banking Act 1987 (fraudulent inducement to make a deposit) does require that the misleading statement should have induced another person to make a deposit. Were that the case then the charge would be one of obtaining property by deception. The offence is complete once the defendant has made a statement which he knows to be misleading, false or deceptive for the purpose of inducing another person to make a deposit with him or another person. The statement does not have to be communicated to the person whom it is intended to induce for breaking a court order or to make a deposit; it is sufficient undertaking did not have powif the statement is made and communicated to someone with the necessary intent or

purpose. Peter Collier QC, Jeremy Barnett

(Registrar of Criminal Appeals) for the ant: Stuart Browne CC, Neville Spencer Lewis (CPS) for the Crown.

CASE SUMMARIES

rkshire Regional Health Author ity v Fairclough Building Ltd and anor; CA (Neill, Evans, Millett L.H): 1 Nov 1995

The substitution of a new party, who had succeeded to a claim or liability already represented in existing proceedings, pursuant to RSC Ord 15, r 7, did not involve the making of a "new claim" as defined in s 35(2) of the Limitation Act 1980 and accordingly s 35(2) did not deprive the court of jurisdiction to order such substitu-tion after expiry of the relevant limitation period.

John Blackhum QC, Martin Bowdry (Hammond Suddards, Leeds) for the second defendants: Nicholas Denny QC and Andrew Goddard (WJ.M. Lovel, Harrogate) for the plaintiffs.

Road traffic East Staffordshire BC v Rendell: ORD(DC) (Simon Brown LJ. Sedley J); 3 Nov 1995 The holder of an operator's licence for a private hire vehicle

in one controlled district committed an offence under s 46(1)(d) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 when he redirected his calls from that controlled district to a telephone on premises in an adjacent controlled district for which he held no licence, since he had made provision for the acceptance of bookings in an area for which he held no licence.

Christopher Kinch (Sharpe Pritchard for Council Solicitor) for the council; Jonathun Galbraith-Martin (Batesh Partnership, Manchester) for the defendant.

Witness R v Davies and ors; CA(Crim Div) (Swinton Thomas L.J., Waterhouse, Harrison JJ); 3 Nov 1995

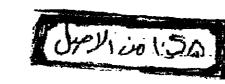
The test of the competence of Criminal Justice Act 1991 is whether the child is able to understand the questions put to him or her, to communicate, to give a coherent and comprehensive account of the matters in relation to which he or she is giving evidence and to dis-

tion and between fact and fantasy. Once a child can give a comprehensive account and distinguish between fact and fic-tion, whether the child is telling the truth or not is a matter for the jury. The Cleveland guidelines in

relation to the conducting of in-

tinguish between truth and fic-

terviews should be regarded as expert advice as to what will normally be the best practice to adopt in seeking to ensure a child's evidence is reliable. In resolving questions that arise under section 32A (video recordings of interviews with children) and the judicial discretion in relation to admissihility under s 78 of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984, the issue was whether fairness required the judge to exclude or to admit the evidence. Patrick Eccles QC, James Tillyard; Gerald Price QC, Jeffrey Clarke: Jan Peddie QC, Philip D. Marshall; Edward Lyons QC. David J.M. Aubrey: a child witness under \$ 2 of the Adrian Fulford QC and Janet Plange (Eaton-Evans & Morris, Haverfundwest); Nigel Mylne QC, Geraint Walters (Paul Settatree & Co. Haverfordwest) for the appellants; Gerard Elias QC, Paul Thomas QC amd Huw Rees (CPS) for the Crown; David Bodey QC (Treasury Solicitor) for the Official Solicitor.



### THINKERS OF THE NINEWES

### **Fundamental** fault that divides us



Is globalization taking place? Far from it, says the man who believes the single ideological clash has been replaced by multiple confrontations based on culture. Bryan Appleyard investigates

Deep in the psyche of the United States there lies the thought that everybody is really American, only by an accident of birth do they call themselves Japanese, French or whatever. Being American is an ideal condition, the moral and political apotheosis of the species. During the Cold War this belief neatly divided the world into two. There were Americans and aspirant Americans - those who supported the United States against the Communists - and there were the rest - those either too misguided or too oppressed to see

On the face of it, the West's victory over Communism should have provided an instant proof of this conviction. But instead, there was puzzlement. America's economic dominance was being challenged by newly confident Far Eastern nations. And, internally, America seemed divided against itself. This country had something that had made it victorious, but there seemed to be no agreement about what it was. Meanwhile, in the Gulf, in Yugoslavia, in Africa, conflict seemed to be as entrenched as ever. The world was apparently incapable of acknowledging its ultimate American

In 1993, in the journal Foreign Affairs, Samuel P Huntington provided one answer. In an essay called The Clash of Civilisations?", Huntington, a Harvard professor, said the single ideological confrontation of the Cold War had been replaced by multiple confrontations. These were based not on politics, economics nor even on the demands of the nation state, but rather on culture. "The next world war," he wrote ominously, "if there is one, will be a war between civilisations."

The thesis is pessimistic. Many had hoped that the triumph of liberal democracy signalled at least the beginning of the end of armed conflict. Liberal democracies have never gone to war with each other and, now that it seemed so obviously to be the one desirable form of government, nations should gradually move towards a new era of peace in which the sheer economic inefficiency of war would become unthinkable. But Huntington began from the view that fundamental conflicts would persist and then he simply asked what

would, in the future, be likely to drive them. For the United States, this pessimism had its positive side. After the Cold War, American institutions faced an identity crisis. From the Pentagon to the CIA, they wondered what they were supposed to do. This was a country on a war footing, but now with no obvi-

ous enemy. Huntington, in the conclusion of his essay, gives them their programme. The US must work to promote co-operation among coun-tries within its own civilisation - Europe and the Americas; it must limit the expansion of military power of Islamic and Confucian states and it must exploit their differences and conflicts. The programme was, in short, to shore up the West against the anti-West. It was as decisive a statement of the need for eternal vigilance as any that were made during the

The intellectual heart of this argument is Huntington's concept of civilisation as the new determining force in world affairs. A civilisation, he says, is a cultural entity, it is "the highest cultural grouping of people and the broadest level of cultural identity people have, short of that which distinguishes humans from other species". In the case of Japan, the civilisation and the nation state coincide, but in every other case a civilisation includes many different states.

Huntington identifies eight civilisations: Western, Confucian, Japanese, Islamic, Hindu, Slavic-Orthodox, Latin American and "possibly" African. Perhaps his most potent example of the way these blocs divide is his new Iron Curtain. The conquests of Communism drew this line too far to the West. In reality, it runs between Russia and Finland, down through the Baltic states, Ukraine and Romania, and then it twists omi-nously through the Balkans. This is the ancient fault-line between Catholic and Orthodox Christianity. It makes it clear that the Bosnian conflict is far more fundamental than we like to think. In the former Yugoslavia, the Europe of the Renaissance and the Enlightenment had reached its easternmost limit.

The point about such divisions is their depth. They are old and they embody basic differences between peoples. We are just beginning to grasp that the Serbs are not like us. Equally, the Confucian states - notably China - will remain essentially incomprehensible because they simply do not share our attitudes to morality, individual freedom and human rights. And, of course, the Salman Rushdie affair demonstrates the extent to which an unbridgeable gap will always exist between a theocratic culture and the West, where religion has been relativised to the

#### 3: SAMUEL HUNTINGTON

The next world war, if there is one, will be a war between civilizations?

CAREER: Samuel P Huntington is Albert J Weatherhead III University Professor and Director of the John M Olin Institute for Strategic Studies at the Center for International Affairs, Harvard University. He was born in 1927 in New York City. He was educated at Yale and Chicago Universities and has taught at Harvard and Columbia. Between 1977 and 1978 he was at the White House as Coordinator for Security Planning for the National Security Council. He founded the quarterly Foreign Policy and was co-editor until 1977.

WORK: He has written more than a dozen books and 90 articles in three key areas: military politics, American and comparative politics, and the politics of less developed countries. His major work - The Third Wave: Democratisation in the Late Twentieth Century - was published in 1991 and his essay, "The Clash of Civilisations?" appeared in 1993.

LIFE: Huntington is married with two

CRITICS: His Clash of Civilisations thesis has been attacked as being oversimplified. Cultures alone, say his critics, do not make wars; more elaborate interactions with politics and economics are required. The idea, it is said, is no more than a desperate attempt to think up a coherent foreign policy for the United States.

point where it cannot make ultimate political demands.

Huntington rejects the argument that, as travel increases and communications improve, these differences will become less profound. Rather, he says, they will become more intense as people struggle to retain their cul-tural identity against the globalising tendencies of the modern world.

"The interactions among peoples of dif-ferent civilisations," he writes, "enhance the civilisation-consciousness of people which, in turn, invigorates differences and animosities stretching or thought to stretch back deep into history." The impact of the essay was almost as great as that of Francis Fukuyama's "End of History" essay published in 1989. Huntington, previously a solid, respected but uncontroversial thinker, was suddenly being debated at conferences around the world. Perhaps this is because he was saying exactly the opposite of Pukuyama. Whereas the End of History argument suggested that all cultures were converging on the ideal of liberal democracy, the "Clash of Civilisations" suggested the ancient divergences were, for the time being, absolute. History, far from being over, had been revitalised by the end of the Cold War. The old, cultural divisions had reemerged to divide us all.

But is Huntington right? Clearly, in an obvious sense, he is. Deep fault-lines do exist in the world that represent more than just econ-omic or political differences. We may console ourselves that they listen to Sting or Michael Jackson in Japan, but it does not take long to realise they are hearing something different. Equally, the Americans might have felt pride that a rough replica of the Statue of Liberty was erected by the students in Tiananmen Square. But China remains a Confucian culture imbued with the utterly alien idea that government cannot ultimately be wrong

cause it is the embodiment of what is right. Yet globalisation is happening. Local cultures are being weakened by the intrusion of alien influences. Usually, because they controi the software, these influences are American. But the point is that, whatever the influences, they tend to deliver the message that the demands of the local, the demands of your civilisation, are not absolute; you can choose others. Maybe Hungtington is right to say this globalisation will induce a kind of cultural paranoia, an intensification of difference. But that is only speculation and there is equally

authoritative speculation pointing in the other direction

Finally, the charge can be levelled at Huntington that he appears to be bending over backwards to define an aggressive foreign pol-icy for the US. Cultural conflict is an even better justification than the merely ideological conflict of the Cold War. There are more enemies and the frontiers are more clearly defined. And this threat is more or less permanent, a constant pressure on the Americans to stiffen their sinews and summon up their blood.

But the fairest summary of Huntington's position is that it has been an important corrective. The defeat of Communism led to many facile simplifications, notably about the universal panacea of free market economics. This led to dangerous generalisations about the world and the absurd assumption that, in the end, everybody would succumb to Western consumerism. Huntington's importance was to point out that there are great differences between peoples that cannot be eliminated either by liberal idealism or conservative economics. For not everybody is American and some might not want to be to the point of war.

Illustration: Chris Priestley



### Diary

I rarely fall out with my friends, but recent events have brought about a free and frank exchange of views with two of the closest. The first rift occurred last Tuesday, when I finally got through to Krystel. I had been having a tough time on the Princess Diana front, for in my west London village only Kuku, my newsagent, and Carol, my assistant, had shared my view of the Panorama experience. "Did you see the Princess Di interview?" I inquired eagerly. "Of experience. Did you see the rrincess of interview. I inquired eagerly. Of course, wouldn't have missed it." I settled down in readiness for a feast of character assassination, at which Krystel is unrivalled. "I thought she was terrific," she added. I emitted a long, low wail. "You couldn't have been taken in. Not you, of all people. And by a manipulative peerer-from-under-hereyelashes who wants to be the Queen of Hearts." "Sorry," said Krystel. "But she was marvellous. And it serves Charles right."

So I called Darren and he provided balm, for he is a Carlist, too, and we dissected the performance so viciously that even Nicholas Soames might have thought we were being a little unfair. Darren shook his head over Krystel but we agreed that she had to be forgiven one major error of judgement. And then we proceeded to chat on other matters until he said apologetically, apropos the referendum that was about to be held in Ireland, that he had decided to vote "No" to divorce. So after the ensuing altercation, I had to ring Krystel to complain about Darren. I have changed the names to protect the guilty, but it gave me a lot of satisfaction to award them such undignified aliases.

Here is Tony Walton's narrative verse on the present state of the saga.

By Princess Di Took the wind from the sails Of the Prince of Wales. When the programme was seen Her Majesty the Queen Said: "If she wants to make a crisis out of a drama She'll have to do better than

(And although it always makes me sick I think Charles should appear with Anne and Nick).

In Dublin at the end of the week, I was delighted by my friend James's reaction to Panarama. It reminded him, he explained, of the true story of the earnest young reporter from the Morning Post who in 1920 was dispatched from London to find out what the devil the Irish were at and why they were rebelling all over the place. Finally, he tracked down a senior Sinn Fein fi<del>gure</del> in Dublin. "What are you seeking?" he asked auxiously, pencil poised over notebook. Eamonn Casey: family man

His interlocutor paused, reflected and pronounced: "Revenge, Bejasus!"

The lamp-posts in Dublin are festooned with a wide variety of placards urging "Yes" or "No" votes on the citizenry. In response to various strong anti-divorce interventions by Catholic bishops and their blood-curdling warnings about



the collapse of family life, the Socialist Workers' Party contribution features a large photograph of Eamonn Casey, sometime Bishop of Galway, who fled the country when it was revealed that he had a son of 18 and had used diocesan funds to pay hush money. Beside him is the legend: "Let the bishops look after their own families. Vote for change!"

Having been brought up in Dublin in the heyday of aggressive and authoritarian Catholicism (I was once denounced from a rural altar for demonstrating urban immodesty by wearing trousers), I never cease to be amazed and delighted by the sheer politeness of Church of England clergy. So I particularly loved the graciously worded question from Stuart Samuel, who is not only Rector of Hathern, Long Whatton & Diseworth with Belton and Osgathorpe, but also Rural Dean of Akeley East:

Dear Ms Edwards, can you state Why you call your chosen Mate the "tenant" of your affections? Do you stress the transience, Short-list, take up reference and lease your predilections?

Michael Leapman, as befits a journalist rather than a man of the cloth, merely observes that the phrase makes him nauseous. And John Hawgood says if I don't want to use simple words like "lover" or "mate", I should launch a competition to find "a better circumlocution". I can't satisfy Michael or John, for my gentleman friend and I are creatures of habit and we're used to the term, but I can reassure Stuart that although initially the phrase indicated a certain caution, I long ago offered to change "tenant" to "freeholder". The tenant, however, says that there is no need to introduce such complications: he has a lease of 999 years and he reckons that'll see

I had lunch last week with Andrew Boyd, friend as well as elf of this cohumn, in the Lee Ho Fook in Gerrard Street, from which emerged three questions. Why did they serve dry



Chinatown: nest of the Pelican

lemon? And why, when they told us they didn't have any coffee, did they offer ice-cream as an alternative? The third is for PG Wodehouse buffs. Is Andrew right in his suspicion that the restaurant is on the site of the Pelican Club, which flourished in the 1880s and 1890s and is much mentioned by Lord Emsworth's brother, the great Galahad Threepwood? And what's more, Andrew wants to know if anyon has ever reconstructed Gally's story about Sir Gregory Parsloe and the prawns, of which we know nothing except that it reduced Beach, the Blandings Castle butler, to hysterical

Musing about Wodehousery has just given me an inspiration. Princess Diana is Madeline ("The stars are God's daisy chain") Bassett .

Mike Bradshaw is in a harsh mood Brian Mawhinney ain't Convincing wearing paint, Trying to put a gloss On Tory dross.

And finally, Diana Wood, who was greatly impressed by your success in sorting out the Odgerses' little difficulty with a riddle, begs for help in discovering the first four lines of a limerick published in the Spectator some time in the Fifties. The last line was "And I bet you 'e 'as 'er by Jan!". Of course, if you don't know the answer, you might make it up.



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### Mr Murdoch's taxing times

Later this week the pages of Rupert Murdoch's national papers - the Times, the Sunday Times, the Sun and the News of the World - will be filled with analyses of Kenneth Clarke's Budget. But while journalists toil over the detail of tax cuts, the real tax experts at Murdoch's News International, the parent company. will be busy on a far more lucrative project. Despite making profits of nearly £1bn in the past decade, the company has paid only 1.2 per cent of this in tax. Whatever Murdoch leader writers say about the justice of the profit tice or otherwise of Clarke's tax regime. News International is certainly not paying its fair share in tax.

The legality of News International's behaviour is not in question, but the morality is. It is a common and legitimate practice for companies to offset profits made in one area against losses made in another, before paying tax on the net pro-fits that remain. Using chains of unex-plained financial transactions between a network of subsidiary companies, including several based in international tax havens, News International manages to find significant losses to help to reduce its British tax bill.

Companies such as News International clearly believe any trick within the limits of the law is legitimate if it reduces their tax bill. Yet they benefit from many services that the Government provides. Ranging from well-maintained roads that help efficient distribution, to a legal framework that ensures their contracts are enforced. they depend on government action to help them to make profits. Multinationals with clever accountants who avoid paying their fair share in tax are in effect subsidised by the British taxpayer.

Then there is the question of a level playing field. Other newspaper operations pay the Treasury more: the Telegraph Group paid about 29 per cent of its profits in tax last year, while the Mirror Group, which owns 43 per cent of the Independent, paid about 20 per cent. If News International had paid, say, 25 per cent of its profits in tax last year, the Treasury would have been almost £200m better off.

Murdoch's competitors must be feeling pretty sore. After all, he is engaged in a predatory price war designed to push some of his competitors out of business by keeping newspaper cover prices low. It must be particularly infuriating to discover that the strategy is being subsidised by the money that News International has avoided paying in tax. Companies that play fair, or whose operations are largely confined to Britain and are therefore unable to use the same methods of tax avoidance, face a serious competitive

disadvantage.
Unfortunately, there is no simple loophole for Mr Clarke to close on Tuesday. While companies have many international arms and while tax collection is confined within national borders, the scope for genious accounting will remain.

The Inland Revenue has a tough new line on corporate tax avoidance. It should go farther and examine new ways to close down the tax-avoidance options available to multinational firms. And the Labour Party should make sure News International's affairs are at the forefront of its corporate tax review. It is vigorous enough in its pursuit of fair tax for individuals. No amount of favourable headlines in the Sun should deflect it from a fair tax proposal

### A division that won't go away

the top would be a request that European Monetary Union, surely the most divisive issue facing the Tories, should quietly fade away. Alas for John Major and his colleagues, this is one present that Santa will not be delivering. As today's meeting in Brussels of European finance ministers will confirm, the political will for launching a single currency by the target date of January 1999 remains strong. Whatever the economic doubts about the project, and there are many, the Government would be deluding itself if it thought that Germany, France, the Benelux countries and others have privately concluded that the launch of the single currency should be put off by a couple of years, or even postponed indefinitely.

Until a month ago, the picture might have looked different. The French government was pursuing half-hearted economic policies that appeared to suggest it was looking for an excuse not to enter monetary union. In Germany, polls consistently showed public opinion hostile to the idea of sacrificing the strong mark for a potentially wobbly Euro-currency. Elsewhere in Europe, loud complaints were to be heard from countries such as Belgium and Italy whose ability to meet the Maastricht treaty's conditions for joining a single currency were being increasingly

questioned in Germany.
Clearly, not all these problems have gone away. But no one should underestimate the significance of President

Ask the Government what it would like for Christmas, and the list would doubtless be long. But somewhere near spring to make a priority of reducing unemployment, he vowed instead to wage war on budget deficits so that France can fulfil the Maastricht criteria on time. His government is now committed to a drastic overhaul of the welfare state and other austerity measures strict enough to make Thatcherism look like a charity event. Bankers and economists may well doubt whether Mr Chirac's gambit will succeed, but the important point is that, after six months of wavering, the president has nailed his colours firmly to the mast of the

single currency.
So. too. has Chancellor Helmut Kohl. It would be a grave mistake for the Government to think that German demands for even tighter conditions of monetary and fiscal stability than those set out in Maastricht indicate a desire in Bonn to find a pretext to bury monetary union. On the contrary, what they reflect is Germany's justified concern that Maastricht should be sufficiently free of loopholes to guarantee that the single currency will work. Close the loopholes, as they are beginning to be closed now, and Germany will be Europe's foremost advocate of launching monetary union

The Tories will therefore not be able to paper over their internal divisions during the next election campaign by arguing that the single currency may never happen. For key member states, monetary union remains the cornerstone of the European

#### ANOTHER VIEW Denis MacShane

#### Royalty and the Commoners

Today, 651 wise monkeys return to Westminster. In our constituencies there has been only one subject talked about over the weekend. Yet, as we slide into our green leather benches this afternoon, we have to pretend that we can say nothing, see nothing and hear nothing about the only issue in town.

Inside Parliament, MPs are forbidden by convention, not law, from debating the monarchy. Outside the Commons, we regain our privileges. Nicholas Soames got shot down for excessive loyalty to his Prince, while in yesterday's Sunday Telegraph, Douglas Hurd was toe-curlingly obsequious to his Princess. But what of the MPs of all persuasions who refuse to take sides in this marital row but would like some debate on the political and constitutional implications of the extent to which the institution that heads our state, in whose name our soldiers die, and to whom each MP swears allegiance, is becoming a

world spectacle? Sympathy for those members of the Royal Family who carry out their duties with discretion and tact is no excuse for not having a mature debate about what we mean by, and want from, the monarchy as we enter the 21st century. In every other democratic monarchy, the monarch swears an oath of allegiance to the constitution. The King of Spain or the Queen of Den-mark are symbols of the democratic glue that holds their states together because they place themselves and their families within and under the laws of their lands.

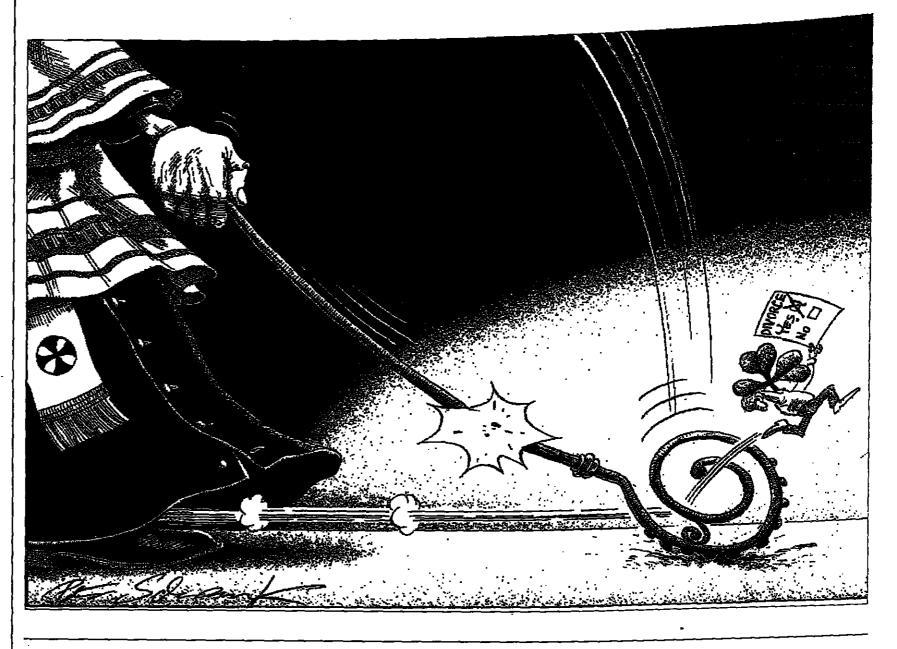
How absurd that MPs should determine, by Act of Parliament, the marital status of a member of the Royal Family. How medieval that the monarch is also expected to head the official state church. How undemocratic that elected legislators cannot discuss the issue that dominates national dehate.

Instead, the royal agenda is controlled by tabloid newspapers and television executives. More beans will be spilt. As the fourth generation of living royals goes through justy adolescence and enters the value-free, me-first world of contemporary upper-class England, more flesh will be pro-

vided for the tabloids and TV to feast upon. Change is urgently needed. The 19th-century mysticism of monarchy, celebrated by Bagehot, worked for a nation rising to the top rank of world power. It is no longer appropriate in a Britain gripped by drift and decline.

Like almost every other part of our ancien rigime, from the centralised, London-based power structure to our segregated education system, the 19th-century settlement is no longer valid. The monarchy must change. And the beginning of that process should be a debate whose agenda is not determined by tabloid journalists, hucksters selling scandal or agents for the warring royal camps, but by Members of Parliament in their own House of Commons, into which, after all, no monarchy may set foot.

The writer is Labour MP for Rotherham.



#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR •

#### Immigration Bill is 'firm' but not 'fair'

From Mr Radu Popp-Vinteller Sir. As an Eastern European exile to this shores, I read with interest Nirj Deva's article (Another View. Fair and firm on immigration", 22 November) on the new Asylum and Immigration Bill.

My disappointment with his article comes from the fact that he fails in all respects to be spe-cific about what "fair" and "firm" means in the proposed Bill. Moreover, he suggests genuine applicants have nothing to fear, yet it is widely acknowledged that the very act of seeking sanctuary has become criminalised, with finger printing and detention procedures. He omitted the fact that the term of asylum-seeker as still defined by law is dated, inadequate and ultimately redundant - for example, last year it was challenged in relation to persecutions on grounds of homosex-

Above all, Mr Deva seemed to imply that an economic refugee is a person who uses his position in this country for material gain without declaring it. The general background of more than 60 per cent of the 24 November Eastern Europeans here is college-educated and middle class. The benefits of living on the poverty line, or taking jobs that white British people do not want, or having jobs refused because we have a persona non grata status cannot be seen as the main reason for fleeing one's native country.

Mandela's links

From Dr Peter Carey
Sir: The equivocations and com-

promises of South African for-

eign policy are indeed disheart-ening ("When Mandela went missing", 21 November), espe-

cially when set beside the huge

sacrifices made to establish black

majority rule. But they are not

totally surprising in the context

of South Africa's links with

During the apartheid regime, arms sales to Jakarta seem to

have bulked large (Indonesia's

public support for sanctions

notwithstanding), and it was one

of the first countries which Nel-

son Mandela visited after his

release from prison in 1990. The fact that President Subarto made

a personal gift of US\$10m to Mandela for the African National

Congress electoral campaign

could be the reason why the East

Timor issue was not taken up too

Even after Jakarta had perpe-trated the 12 November 1991

Santa Cruz massacre in Dili

care for themselves

Sir; In his article on paying for care of the elderly (Money: 25

November), Clifford German

mentions a number of ways in

which the Chancellor could ease

the problem through tax conces-

sions and by upping the £8,000 asset threshold. Surely one of the

simplest measures to allow the

elderly to hang on to their homes

would be to allow the cost of care

to be offset for tax purposes

against any income they might

have. In this way a small occupa-

tional pension might be able to

Help the elderly

From Mr Piers Hart

Indonesia.

with Indonesia

century is to be undesired living proof that the plunder that occurs in Eastern Europe is unjust and oppressive at civil, political, cultural, social and, ultimately, at economic level, and that some of us still refuse to accept it and we pay the price of exile trying to make the West conscious of it. Eventually what is disconcerting about the new Bill is not the

To be a European exile in Britain at the end of the 20th

racist-or-not debated issues, but the fact that it aims to tackle an effect - eg. asylum-seekers and immigration, without trying to sort out the causes. Mr Deva's article ignores these causes, which is very distressing, considering the lessons of history and the geo-political presence of Eastern Europe. The plight of Bosnia is a harrowing example of a lesson of history that politicians were complacent to learn and are now apparently happy to be rid of, but at what human cost? Yours sincerely. RADU POPP-VINTELLER

From Mr Randhir Singh Bains Sir: Nirj Deva, MP, is quite wrong to describe the current Asylum and Immigration Bill as "fair and firm". The Bill is undoubtedly firm but is not fair, for it is likely to have adverse implications for refugees from Third World countries.

tions continued to blossom. Dur-

ing an official visit to Indonesia

in September 1994, Mandela

again soft-pedalled East Timor.

merely calling for "dialogue" (something which was already in

train - and getting nowhere -under UN auspices) and not

pressing for the release of the one

man who could have made that

dialogue meaningful - the East

Timorese resistance leader,

Xanana Gusmao, who is serving

a 20-year jail sentence in Jakarta

after a trial widely condemned as

unfair by international lawyers.

critical for present-day South

Africa and Mandela must do his

bit, but when that investment

comes from contacts with regimes

as repressive as Suharto's Indone

sia, one might have expected some scruples, especially from a

Fellow and Tutor, Modern History

pay in full for care in the home

without the need for outside

resources or subsidies. Similarly,

renting out the erstwhile family

gross income to pay for residen-

tial care. This would greatly

reduce the financial demands on

the public purse and continue to

allow individuals, even in old

age, to be independent con-

sumers and creators of wealth. It

does seem iniquitous that the

elderly and infirm should be

penalised through taxation in

their endeavours to remain finan-

cially self sufficient.

Yours faithfully.

Thetford, Norfolk

PIERS HART

leader of Mandela's stature.

Yours sincerely,

PETER CAREY

Trinity College

22 November

No doubt foreign investment is

London, SW1

Notwithstanding the Govern-ment's persistent denial, the Bill is specifically designed to curb the flow of refugees from Asia and Africa, not from Poland. The East European countries have been included to make the Bill appear more credible and mask its racist connotations.

The Tory government used similar strategies in the late Seventies when, in order to curb visitors from the Indian sub-continent, it extended the Immigration Act to include visitors from the old Commonwealth. The Act was meant to treat all visitors equally, irrespective of their race, but in reality it worked against the visitors from the new Commonwealth, for white Australians and Canadians encountered little difficulty in getting into this country.

The current Asylum and Immigration Bill, like its predecessor, ing, albeit sympathetically, with 'genuine" refugees from Eastern Europe and the other for dealing firmly with "economic" refugees from the Third World.

There is little doubt that the Bill is carefully timed and designed not to solve the problem of illegal immigration but to bolster the Government's declining popularity in the opinion polls. Yours faithfully. RANDHIR SINGH BAINS

Gants Hill, 24 November

#### Wind turbines will (which left 271 dead, 250 missing and 382 wounded - a far worse save our planet death toll than Sharpeville), rela-

From Mr David Redom Sir: So, John Edwards (letter, 24 November) does not believe that "the public" will ever accept thousands of wind turbines. I personally regard wind tur-bines as machines of great beauty. just like a tall sailing ship, and will be delighted to see them every-

where in the near future.

Of course, wind speeds being higher over the sea means that being sited off-shore optimises an aerogenerator's efficiency, but there are many excellent inland areas where "the public" can enjoy the thrill of watching and listening to these very green, pollution-free servants of human kind diligently

going about their appointed task. The alternative to pollution-free power sources such as acrogenerators is, in any case, too ter-rible to contemplate, not just for rural Wales but for the whole planet. So let's ignore Mr Edwards and build a future - aerogenerators are as good a place to start as any and will become a visible symbol of just how much fun saving the planet is going to be. Yours faithfully,

DAVID REDOM London, N13

#### Less litigation home might provide sufficient

From Dr Nick Armstron Sir. Kindly ask Polly Toynbee "Watch out! There's a victim about", 24 November) to read the 1994 judicial statistics. They show that the litigation in English civil courts has dropped over the past few years, taking her argument with it.

Yours faithfully, NICK ARMSTRONG Irwin Mitchell Research Fellow Nottingham Law School Nottingham

#### Time-consuming exercise

From Mr Nicholas Bond Sir: Peter Popham seems intent on propagating the misconcep-tion that changing the time on our clocks can give us more hours of daylight ("Time for a little day-

light - and sanity" 25 November), He quotes Dr Mayer Hillman's calculations that putting the clocks forward an hour would give us 12 per cent (weekdays) and 35 per cent (weekends) extra time for "daylight-dependent activities". It must be obvious to everyone with any intelligence that we will get no extra daylight time purely by moving the hands on our clocks - so from where do these figures come?

It seems that we have become slaves to time rather than having the flexibility of being able to start From Mr. Andrew Warren the day earlier, or later, if we so Sir. You argue in your business and builders in the north of Scotland to start work at 10am, they should be able to do so whether

pean Time. As for Mr Popham's desire for winter tennis without floodlights, gardening and daylight dog walk-ing, to achieve this at present he

has only to get up an hour earlier at weekends and, with the clocks altered during the week, he would still have to take the afternoon off to get in a game of tennis or make an impact on his garden. And what about those of us

who regularly walk our dogs early

in the morning? Spending valuable parliamentary time, newsprint and broadcasting time arguing about which hour the hands of our clocks should be pointing at is not going to give us any more daylight and will do little for anyone's sanity. Yours faithfully.

NICHOLAS BOND Lower Quinton, Warwickshire 25 November

wish. If, during the winter comment column (25 November) months, it is in the interests of that synchronising time with the is also likely to generate two sets schoolchildren in the south of Continent would "cut £250m off of unwritten codes: one for deal- England to start school at 8am electricity bills". But how is that electricity bills". But how is that compatible with your concluding advice to Scots concerned about longer, darker mornings to use our clocks are registering GMT, more industrial lighting to com-Summer Time or Central Euro-pensate? Yours faithfully,

ANDREW WARREN Felsted. 25 November

#### Waiters do not get | We blame the the service charge | social workers

From Mr Michael Beckman Sir: Hermione Ainley's letter (24 November) that tips are accepted with gratitude is fair comment, particularly when the quality of the service merits such award. However, an invidious practice has grown up in many restaurants where a "service charge" of 10 per cent is automatically placed on the bill but is never received by the

staff concerned. Historically, this item is a substitute for the gratuity roughed out at 10 per cent. Most people do not realise that this sum is grabbed by the owners (including large chains) and adds to their turnover/profits only. Customers should enquire who receives the added percentage described as "service charge and refuse to pay if not assured that it goes for the purpose they intend, namely to the people who provided the service. Yours faithfully, MICHAEL BECKMAN

#### Tables turned

From Mr Harold Stone between the last two.

Beamish (letter, 23 November) might avoid her "scepticism and irritation" were she to separate the first two, and so separate considerations of educational achievement from issues of class and affluence. Yours faithfully, HAROLD STONE Wareham,

Dorset 23 November

-15

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همزندار زهن دان

1. A. A.

From Ms Lesley Abdela Sir: If the Prince of Wales had openly expressed the belief that certain elements at a certain palace were conspiring against his well-being, would Nicholas well-being, would Nicholas Soames have stated that the Prince was in an advanced state of paranoia - or would he have said this really ought to be looked into properly both from the human and the constitutional point of view?

Yours sincerely, LESLEY ABDELA Conock, Wiltshire 24 November From Mr Stephen Briggs Sir: Your front-page headline on the West case today (23 November) "Failures that put social services in the dock" signals by implication that social services were to blame in some way. You chose not to use a headline more consistent with the report, and the facts of the case, such as "MP calls for hotline to help abuse victims"

Widford. Hertfordshire 26 November

Sir. Any one block of the schools results tables falls clearly into three general categories: selective entry, non-selective comprehen-sive and specials for Special Educational Needs. No one would make comparison of results

Your correspondent Caroline

Letters should be addressed to Letters to the Editor, and include a daytime telephone number. (Fax: 0171-293 2056; e-mail: letters@ independent co.nk) Letters may be edited for length and clarity. We regret that we are unable to knowledge unpublished letters. Back issues of the Independent are available from Historic Newspapers. 0800 906609,

It seems to be the policy of

your paper to portray social ser-

vices and social workers in a

negative light, irrespective of

their knowledge or powers to act.

Can I therefore suggest the fol-

lowing as suitable future head-lines for the continuing emo-tional crisis of the Royal Family:

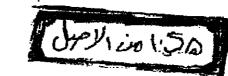
"Diana slashes wrists - social workers to blame", and "Charles

admits adultery - social workers failed to stop it".

Yours sincerely,

STEPHEN BRIGGS

Blofield, Norwich



### Cheap beer and tax cuts for UK plc

The battle between Mr Brown and Mr Clarke is like a scene from Hogarth – or modern business

Every time I think about tomor-row's Budget, I think of Hogarth. In particular, I am vividly reminded of his wonderful series of canvases "An Election", which depicted the unreformed electoral system of the 18th century in all its corrupt and

unprincipled glory.
It is not difficult to imagine Kenneth Clarke circa 1750. He aiready has the claret-filled shape of an 18th century political hack; and, with the simplest addition of a lop-sided wig, could easily be painted into Hogarth's hustings - leering down from the rickety platform and bellowing to the mob below that ancient pledge, once so central to British political life: Cheap

Well, those days are back; for that, in essence, is what Mr Clarke must say on Tuesday if his party is to stand the faintest chance of victory at the next election. Of course, he will not literally offer us cheap beer. Indeed, I rather suspect Treasury pressure will prevent him from reducing the duties on alcoholic beverages by more than a penny or two. No, Tuesday's equiv-alent of "cheap beer!" will be "tax cuts!" The only mystery remaining is the form that these will take.

Nothing new in this, you may say. Aren't we all too used to Tory Chancellors manipulating the "electoral business cycle" to their party's advantage with cynically timed cuts in direct taxation? Well, yes. But in the past the taxation? Well, yes. But in the past the Opposition has invariably denounced them for doing so. This time it will be undercut the Tories at their own Clarke and Mr Brown will be per-

different. For on Tuesday, there will be another, equally bulky, equally 18th-century figure waiting on the other side of the dispatch box - and ready to match Mr Clarke tax cut for

Gordon Brown is in some ways an even more Hogarthian figure than Ken Clarke. There was, after all, no more familiar figure in the seedy pol-ities of the 18th-century than The Hard-Nosed Scotsman On The Make. Down they poured to London after the Act of Union, intent on carving out careers for themselves. And today, under the banner of new Labour, they pour down harder than ever.

For weeks, Mr Brown has been preparing the ground for what promises to be one of the most outrageous budget replies in the Labour Party's history. He has already flown an unusually large number of pre-Budget kites, including a windfall tax on privatised utilities and workfare for what used to be called "the undeserving poor". But the kite that flew highest was his audacious proposal for a 10p in the pound bottom rate for income tax. That gives us a good indication of what Mr Brown will say on Tuesday; the moment the Chancellor slumps back on the Government front bench, Big Gordon will be on his feet ready to lead his own mob in a triumphant chorus of - "Free



The British left has returned snout-first to the politics of the pork barrel

game of electoral bribery, the implication will be clear. After some 200 years in which ideology has called the tune, the British left has at last returned, snout-first, to the politics of the pork barrel.

Of course, you do not have to go as far back as the 18th century to encounter this sort of thing. You only need to look at the way takeover bids are conducted in modern business. The predator takes out full-page advertisements to rubbish the existing management and to offer shareholders mouth-watering bonuses and future dividends. With glossy mailshots, the management responds in

forming a version of the same corporate ritual. In the language of the City pages: "New Labour launches hostile bid for UK plc."

All of which is very shocking and

deplorable, no doubt. How shameful that the House of Commons - once the scene of great political battles for religious toleration, constitutional reform, individual liberty and social equality – should sink to this level of a political stock exchange.
But is it so terrible? I am actually

rather delighted by Mr Brown's conversion to pork-barrel politics although I fear it greatly increases his party's chances of winning the next election. For it means that, for the time being at least, the old ideologies that dominated the period 1789-1989 are finished and done with. Quite simply, there is no longer any point in trying to run election campaigns in the name of Liberty, Equality, Fraternity or any of the other catchphrases from the 200-year Age of Revolutions. "Rights" are out. "Interests" - plain old money-grubbing material interests - are back in.

The reason for this is simply that a consensus has been reached on all the main issues raised after 1789. The right has portrayed the result of the Cold War as a victory; but if you regard the war between conservatives and progressives as dating back to 1789, then the result has been more like a draw. In accepting democracy, conscrva-tives have accepted an enormous shift towards redistribution of income: in

abandoning socialism, progressives have given up on the idea of forcible redistribution of wealth.

With the welfare state fundamen-tally intact in spite of more than 15 years of Tory government, but with Labour converted to the limits imposed on it by Thatcherism, the con-sensus is clear: government takes about 40 per cent of GNP in taxation, the bulk of which it redistributes through the social security, health and education departments, leaving a little left over for its old functions - defence, law and order and the national debt.

The only problem is the very old-fashioned way UK plc is run. Every adult citizen is a shareholder with voting rights which are delegated every few years to a huge and weak advisory board of MPs. Even more oddly, we pay our management the worst rates in the world (especially the poor old Chief Executive in 10 Downing Street). And the accounts of the firm are expressed in an anachronistic language which no serious businessmen would put up with. If you discussed the affairs of a major corporation in the way the Chancellor will discuss those of UK pic tomorrow, the most docile shareholders would revolt.

So my advice to Mr Brown is this Go for pork-barrel politics by all means. But go forwards instead of backwards for inspiration. Instead of the style of William Hogarth, adopt the style of Michael Milken - and turn the next general election into the mother of leveraged buyouts.

### Leading blights of Burma

a piece about Burma. Not only that, but I was offered a free flight out there and a cruise up the Irrawaddy. All I had to do afterwards was extol the place as a tourist destination, while carefully avoiding the political overtones.

The reason they had approached me rather than someone else was not hard to guess. In 1987, I had gone to Burma with a BBC film crew to make a programme called The Burna Road in the "Great Journeys" series. I had fallen in love with the country. I had written glowingly about the place and the people. Who bet-ter, the travel people must have reasoned, to send out as a herald for the tourist invasion?

The travel people may not have noticed that while I liked the place, I hated the government. Burma has been under the foot of a grim regime for as long as most people can remember, a corrupt and greedy regime of thugs who have crushed racial minorities, bled the economy dry and murdered students and monks in large numbers whenever they have protested; they were doing so before Tiananmen Square set the fashion. The Burmese regime combines the less attractive characteristics of the Chinese government at its most bully-boy and a pseudofascist Latin American dicta-

torship. The reason I turned down the invitation to have a free gramme's trip and write this piece was partly honourable (to avoid encouraging the Burmese regime) and partly cowardly (to avoid getting anywhere where the Burmese regime, who might have read what I had written about them, could give me a hard time). But the one thing, more than anything else, that convinced me I should boycott the place was a chance encounter last year with someone from Burma who had lived at Pagan.

Pagan (pronounced Pa-GARN) is the most amazing place I have ever seen. It was, once, a flourishing medieval city on a plain beside the Irrawaddy River, full of shops, temples, palaces and houses. Centuries ago, everything was destroyed except the temples. leaving a gigantic chess board of brick and stone pyramids, stretching for miles between the river and the hills.

temples small villages formed, where farmers and merchants crept back into the deserted city to set up their small colonies. I can remember climbing the main pagoda in the village of Pagan to survey the great plain as the sun came up over Burma, and being

Earlier this year I was equally surprised by the sight and by the sounds. I had expected the world at the top of a pagoda to be tranquil, but I had forgotten that sound travels well upwards, and up there on top of the temple I could hear the whole village beneath me - the dogs, the shouts, the creaking of cart wheels, the singing, the crack-ling of fire. The effect of a lived-in monument was heady. Not any more, said my con-

tact from Pagan. To keep it clean and pure for the tourist trade, that village has been swept away. It has vanished. The inhabitants have been forcibly moved away from their riverside home to a dusty desert miles away and left to rot. Things have been done to these people as bad as anything in Bosnia, the difference in Burma being that the government is doing it to its own people. Not ethnic cleansing

but touristic cleansing.
All this was unpleasantly



confirmed for me on Radio 4 last week, on the excellent programme called Costing the Earth, in which the procorrespondent revealed that this clearance is now going on in Rangoon itself, where whole areas are being knocked down to make room for four-star hotels, and the people are being thrown out of town. Gangs of slave labour are being forced to clean out the vast moat of the Palace of Mandalay.

There was a time when the Burmese discouraged tourism, but now they have discovered the quick profits to be made from it, as they previously discovered the profits to be made from flogging off their jade, teak and oil. So the thugs in charge of Burma have pro-claimed that this should be "Visit Burma Year" and have started tossing out blandishments to travel firms, which led, I suppose, to my invitation to visit.

The ironic thing is that the programme we made in 1987. The Burma Road, told the grim slavery and forced labour to build the Second World War supply route into China. Today, the Burmese government is doing the same thing to its own people.

Ladies and gentlemen, I give you the toast - make 1996 "Avoid Burma Year".

Ireland's people have shown that they want to move forward, but cautiously, says Conor Gearty

### When church and state divorce

The separation between church and state in Ireland, for so long merely theoretical, has finally ended in divorce. Friday's vote to remove the country's constitutional prohibition on divorce may have been by the narrowest of margins, but government by referendum allows no middle ground between victory and defeat, and the change will have as much constitutional and legal weight as if the vote had been unanimous. The signifi-cance of the result extends far beyond its subject matter. Since the adoption of Eamon de Valera's new Irish constitution in 1937, the country has ostensibly enjoyed secular self-government in the Anglo-American democratic tradition. Though never designedly a theocracy, the divorce prohibition was only one of several clauses that recognised (in the words of one provision not removed until 1972) "the special position" of the Catholic Church in this new independent Ireland.

In the decades that followed 1937, lay politicians might have seemed to be driving this new vehicle of state in accordance with the democratic wishes of all its passengers, but this was only because the church was choosing their route. This entirely suited the bishops; why go to the bother of driving when the people could be relied upon to elect professional chauffeurs? What the church desired was legislated into life; what it disliked quietly disappeared. Its hold on the Irish imagina-tion was such that no coercion was required; the legislators, being good (and therefore obedient) Catholics, could not help themselves from translating the Catholic Church's will into

This arrangement had begun to fray well before this weekend's result. In 1973, Ireland entered the European Community, with all its Godless Catholic countries to provide a bad example. The following year, in a decision with momentous implications at the time, the Supreme Court struck down a law that banned the importation of contraceptives. The pace of reform increased in recent years, with the Irish Parliament recently enacting liberal gay laws that would have been unthinkable only a decade before.

Despite such changes, the divorce referendum was still pivotal because it was the first opportunity for the people themselves to adjudicate in a clear contest between church and state. Earlier referendums in the Eighties on abortion and divorce had been muddied by splits in the political ranks as to the right stance to adopt. But for this referendum all the mainstream political parties were firmly in favour of change. So were most of Ireland's national newspapers, and almost all its



Counting the cost: to win by 9,000 votes on a turnout of 1.5 million voters is hardly a clear political mandate for change Photograph: Eamon Furrell/Photocall

cultural and artistic celebrities. It was a case of the church and Ireland's "cultural defenders" against the rest, with the church being additionally handicapped by the succession of scandals that have swarmed around it in recent years, further emasculating its already shrinking authority. In fact, so disgraced are the bishops in Ireland that the anti-divorce groups operated almost entirely independently of them, and their hardline intervention was thought even by those who opposed change to have been uniformly counter-productive.

In view of all this, the really interesting question is not why Ireland voted yes, but why it so nearly voted no. Of course, the defenders of the status quo had simplicity on their side. It is far easier to shout "Save the family" at a political rally than it is to explain why you want people to be free to do something you admit you see only as a last resort and which you probably disapprove of anyway. Also, in the last few days of the campaign, the anti-divorce groups played a legal card to great effect, arguing that the change was certain to have momentous implications for the property rights of "first families", something that was strongly but not necessarily

effectively rebutted by the government. Nevertheless, whatever one argues about its legal and constitutional authority, to win by 9,000 votes on a turnout of more than one and a balf million voters is hardly a clear political mandate for change.

As the campaign progressed, divorce became less a tangible pro-

There is genuine and profound concern at drifting into a culture that is free of ethics

posal than a linguistic battleground over which to fight for a nation's soul. The paradoxical consequence of Fri-day's near electoral stalemate is the delivery of a clear, albeit negative, message as to how the Irish people do not want the future to develop. On the one hand, there is clearly no stomach for a nostalgic drive into the cruel, stifling certainties of the past. On the other, there is genuine and profound concern at drifting into a culture that is as free of ethics and moral responsibility as it

is of authoritarian priests and nuns. This was no Irish vote for the Sixties, three decades after the event. The voters showed that while they wanted to put the church in its place, they were quite certain that it had a place.

Despite all the scandals and disgrace that surround it, the Catholic Church remains absolutely central to Ireland's sense of itself as a nation, as a place where respect for others, whether they be in the family, the parish, the village or even the city, con-tinues to weigh just as heavily as the more Protestant sentiment of indi-vidual autonomy. In its richest mani-festations, the church stands for a vision of a society that is caring, charitable and solicitous towards the poor. As Ireland hurtles towards the premier league of nations, with a fast growth rate, low inflation, falling unemployment and the EMU club beckoning around the corner, this churchinspired vision of itself is a comforting guarantee that not everything has to change. As Britain and other Western nations experiment with communitarianism and other ideas, in an effort to fill the moral vacuum at the heart of their societies, the Irish have shown themselves too sensible casually to dispense with their home-grown version

of that which other countries are now so desperate to invent.

It is this that makes so heartbreaking the tragically bad leadership that the Irish church has had to endure for so long, with endless middle-aged episcopal dullards pontificating on women and sexuality when far better and more enduring messages lie readily to hand, and when far better and more intelligent men and women stand ready to deliver them. If only the bishops were as intelligent as the flock they try so unsuccessfully to hector.

The result of the referendum means that it is the church, rather than the Irish people, which is at a crossroads. The Irish are determined to advance, with the church preferably, but without it if necessary. It is the church that must now decide whether it wants to be the spiritual partner in new Ireland's experiment with the future or whether it is content instead to be an irrelevant, negative presence on the sidelines, ignoring the positive aspects of change but croaking "I told you so"

at every misfortune on the route. The divorce between church and state may have finally come through, but a better governed, more humble and more human church could still win custody of the nation's soul.

by Tony Reeve and Steve Way

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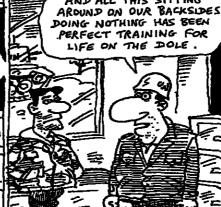
WELL, BARRY, OUR WORK HERE IN BOSNIA IS ALMOST DONE. SOON BE GOING HOME TO DEAR OLD BLIGHTY ...

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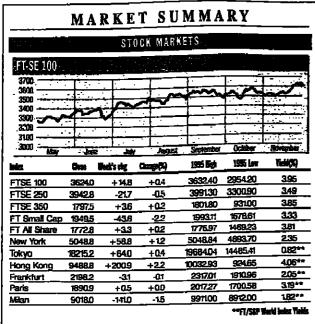




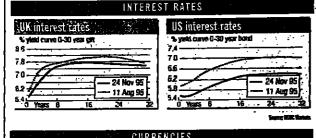


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#### IN BRIEF

#### **Electronics wins bank paper chase**

Electronic transactions overtook paper in the UK high street banking sector for the first time earlier this year. According to analysis at Merrill Lynch, volumes of paper such as cheques now account for 46.9 per cent of the total, down from 50 per cent at the start of the year. The investment bank forecasts that for 1995 as a whole there will be 2.1 billion paper transactions and 2.3 billion electronic. A 4 per cent erosion in "market share," as reported for paper transactions, means a switch of 174 million transactions from paper to electronic. The accelerating shift towards electronic transactions at automated tellers and their like is expected to lead to further large job cuts as banks continue

#### **Signet denies talks with Ratner**

Signet yesterday denied that it had held any discussions with ousted chief executive Gerald Ratner about selling parts of the jewellery group. Mr Ratner, whose name the group once bore, is reported to be attempting to line up venture capital backing to buy back the Ernest Jones and H Samuel chains. He is also said to be seeking a strong City name to act as chairman, acknowledging that he could not raise the necessary capital on his own.

#### Crucial Littlewoods meeting tomorrow

The future of the Littlewoods football pools and retail empire could be decided tomorrow at a crucial meeting of the 32 Moores family shareholders who control the group. The two-day gathering will decide whether to progress the planned £1.2bn bid from former chief executive Barry Dale. It comes ahead of next week's emergency shareholders' meeting where Mr Dale will need a majority vote to gain acess to the books and turn his indicative offer into a full-scale bid.

#### Welsh Water poised for Swalec strike

Welsh Water is thought to be poised to launch its long-awaited bid for Swalec this week, valuing the regional electricity com-pany for South Wales at about £800m. On Wednesday, Welsh is expected to attempt to win a board recommendation from Swalec, but is set to press on with a hostile offer if it is rejected. The bid would value Swalec shares at around 860p.

#### £375m offer expected for Amec

The triangular bid moves surrounding Amec, the UK construction group, are expected to see the Norwegian group Kyaerner pitch in with an offer worth £375m either today or tomorrow. The 100p bid for the ordinary shares would be at the same price as last week's dawn raid that netted Kvaerner 10 per cent of its target and is likely to be in cash. The move will force Amec to work hard to convince the City that its all-paper offer for rival contractor Alfred McAlpine, launched on Friday, makes sense. Amec's defence will argue that analysis' forecasts of £25m profits for next year are too low and that overseas contracts have yet to show their potential.

#### Cadbury most admired company

Cadbury Schweppes has overtaken Rentokil as the company most admired by Britain's top-ranking executives. At the other end of the spectrum. Trafalgar House in 250th place and Eurotunnel one notch above, vie with each other as the most despised.

The rankings come from the latest annual survey by Management Today magazine in conjunction with Loughborough University Business School, which asked senior managers to rank their peers.

#### £20m value placed on drugs firm

PolyMASC Pharmaceuticals is to be valued at around £20m when it comes to the Alternative Investment Market. The company is to raise roughly £5m from an offer of about 25 per cent of its shares. The main products are polymer coatings used for existing drugs.

### Markets expect Clarke fireworks

DIANE COYLE Economics Correspondent

Expectations are growing that Kenneth Clarke, Chancellor of the Exchequer, will deliver a dramatic Budget when he stands up in the House of Commous tomorrow, despite behind-the-scenes attempts last week to play down the size of tax cuts.

Nick Knight, a prominent City of London strategist at Japanese bank Nomura, said: What would be the point of fudging what could be his last Budget? He will be bold one way or the other."

Financial markets firmly expect both tax cuts and a fall in interest rates in the weeks af-

rates paid in the money markets, vhich led Halifax Building Society to reduce its rates on investment accounts on Friday a move that usually precedes a drop in base rates.

faces the risk of a run on sterling if financial markets think he is giving away too much on taxes. The pound weakened sharply a fortnight ago after "au-thoritative reports" that tax cuts would amount to £5bn. Sterling has recovered only in the past few days due to market perceptions that the Trea-

sury was trying to scale back

The reaction by financial markets to the Budget is crucial. It will be the deciding factor in whether there is room for a fall Other City analysts warn, in the 6.75 per cent base rate however, that the Chancellor and in mortgage rates. and in mortgage rates.

Bijal Shah, an economist at Smith New Court, said: "Lower mortgage rates are the best way to put money into people's pockets. The market reaction is likely

to be mixed, analysts said yes-terday. David Owen at Kleinwort Benson said expectations about the scale of tax cuts had expectations.

Neil MacKinnon, chief economist at Citibank investment

room for disappointment."

Corey Miller, a strategist at Sociéte Générale, said there was Corey Miller, a strategist at

been building. "There is a lot of

This has already cut interest bank, said: "Tax cuts without a high degree of optimism spending cuts would not go about the Budget, but it had already been priced into the stock about house prices.

The reaction by Spandet."

The reaction by Spandet.

Kevin Darlington, at brokers Hoare Govett, said financial markets were likely to give the Chancellor the benefit of the doubt immediately after the Budget. "But over time they could regurgitate what they might swallow instantaneously."

Hopes for reductions in personal taxes that would come into effect next April range widely, from £2bn-£10bn with a cluster around £3bn. Income tax reductions are firmly expected. with 1p off the basic rate seen as the most likely option. Mortgage lenders still hold out some hope for a package to stimulate the housing market – perhaps

about house prices. Health and education will be

shielded from the spending axe. This is likely to cut most heavily into capital expenditure, especially the roads and housing programmes. The Government is likely to announce a greatly expanded Private Finance Ini-

tiative to fill this gap.

Some £3bn will be found from the normal reduction in the contingency reserve - funds set aside for unforeseen spending, which are always cut as the financial year to which they apply draws nearer. Other departmental spending plans, such as defence and trade and industry, will also be cut back to

There are fears in the City that the Chancellor could also announce tax increases to make the public finances add up in a way that will keep sterling out of danger. A higher insurance premium tax is seen as a frontrunner, while higher taxes on the privatised utilities cannot be

ruled out. Richard Kersley, equity strategist at BZW, said: "The market has focused on likely winners. People have not paid attention to the fact that a broadly neutral Budget would create as many losers as winners." He said that attention was likely to switch to the opinion polis and Labour Party policies as soon as this year's Budget was out of the way.

Gavyn Davies, page 19

### Watchdog warns on British Gas upheavals

MARY FAGAN Industrial Correspondent

Clare Spottiswoode, the gas industry watchdog, has warned of the damaging effect of boardroom upheavals at British Gas on communications with the regulator and on the company

Ms Spottiswoode has already told Richard Giordano, chairman, of her concern and is expected to raise it again at a meeting tomorrow, primarily intended to discuss the future of Transco, the company's pipeline subsidiary.

Ms Spottiswoode feels that on some important issues it is not clear who, on the British Gas board, has responsibility, and who she should talk to. The problem is thought to have become worse since last month's sweeping boardroom changes that left Cedric Brown, chief executive, as the only member of the old guard.

Ms Spottiswoode said: "Mr Giordano has been there for two years, three executive directors have gone and only one replacement made. I sincerely hope they get it sorted out." Her criticism comes amid

big changes in the industry. Ofgas is in the throes of deciding how to regulate the British Gas pipeline - the company's need to use. The watchdog is

sumers after the present price formula expires in 1997.

The board shake-out - the biggest since Mr Giordano became chairman in January 1994 - included the abrupt departure of Russell Herbert, the 51year-old executive director with responsibilities including the global gas business. His duties have been assumed by Stephen Brandon, who recently joined the board from General Electric of the US.

It was also announced that Howard Dalton, who has re-sponsibilities including exploration and production, would retire "in due course". Norman Blacker, whose dutries cover Europe and the UK gas trading operations, resigned as executive board member this month. Ms Spottiswoode also holds

the view that competition should help not only UK gas consumers but the company itself - making it stronger and more robust to compete in the global marketplace.

"It is taking a long time. The company has had huge challenges to cope with and is responding well. But we do not yet see a world-class company emerging," she said. British Gas is struggling to

fight its way back into the nation's favour after a year of public relations fiascos. The group troversy since it was revealed



Clare Spottiswoode: wants to know who is responsible

per cent to £475,000. The demise of British Gas's reputation from one of being highly regarded by the public astonished the City and is regulator.

in the domestic gas market from next spring - a timetable imposed by the Government that has been widely, but quietly, criticised as being too caused a deterioration in some also consulting on the future last November that Mr Brown's It is being forced to restruction price control for domestic conbasic pay had been increased by ture to prepare for competition piness among many customers.

### Neil's £300m offer for 'Express' fuels City sale pressure

MATHEW HORSMAN

Lord Stevens, chairman of United News & Media, is expected to face increasing pres-sure from the City to sell the Express newspapers, following revelations that a consortium led by Andrew Neil was willing to bid up to £300m for the Daily Express and the Sunday Ex-

Mr Neil, former editor of the Sunday Times, has teamed up with John Dux, former managing director of News International, Rupert Murdoch's UK newspaper company. Mr Neil said yesterday that Lord Stevens had "no apparent wish to sell the titles. All he said to us was that if we want to make us was that if we want to make on the right business opportu-He added that Lord Stevens

"wants to keep his toy. The question is, will he continue to call the tune? This is a serious bid from serious people for serious money."

Deutsche Morgan Grenfell

has lined up financing for the consortium, while Arthur Andersen, the accounting and con-sulting firm, has advised on the business plan.

It is believed a firm offer in

the range of £250m-£300m would gain the backing of institutional shareholders of United News, as well as at least some of the non-executive directors. The under-performing national United's share price back, deoperations. Analysts said the shares could benefit from a rerating if the national newspapers were sold. Mr Neil has recently worked

as a freelance journalist, since returning from a stint in the US. "I've been in a lucky position," "I don't have to do anything. I'm quite satisfied remaining a freelance journalist, and I'm

making a lot of money."

He is also behind a company developing a pay-TV "black box" to rival Mr Murdoch's BSkyB near-monopoly. But, he says, Mr Murdoch's competitors, including the cable com-panies, "are like rabbits facing

nity if one comes along. Mr Neil is not alone in expressing an interest in the Express group. Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber, the composer, has also discussed a separate bid for the titles, offering £100m towards a £300m bid with partners. Tony O'Reilly, chief executive of Irish-based Independent Newspapers, is rumoured to be interested, either with Sir An-

drew or on his own. But the appointment last week of a former Daily Mail senior editor, Richard Addis, as editor of the Daily Express, and former deputy editor of the Sunday Times, Sue Douglas, as edsuggested to analysts that Lord

### '£6m payment' renews fat-cat row

Lord Forte stands aside in bid battle

Turnover Pre-tax profits

Net borrowings

MAGNUS GRIMOND

The Labour Party yesterday used an alleged £6m payment to Ray McEnhill, former chief executive of the privatised coach group National Express, to reopen its attack on the Government's privatisation pro-

The money, said to have been paid by a former business associate, would make Mr McEnhill the wealthiest executive yet to emerge from the privatisation process. It is set to revive the storm over "fat cat" directors of former nationalised companies.

floating around the privatised utilities. It confirms the suspicion that they were privatised at knock-down prices, rather than that they have been highly suc-

cessful trading entities."

Mr McEnhill is said to have

received the money last year as a "thank you present" from Dawson Williams, a former business partner. Mr Williams is now chairman of British Bus, the Salisbury-based bus group whose stock market flotation has been delayed by a Serious its bankers. Bank of Boston.

think the public will be astonished that there is so much cash moving force behind a £10m management buy-in at National Express in 1991. As part of their Drawlane group, Nation-al Express was turned round into profit and brought to the stock market in December 1992. But it was thought that

> same rating as the National Express long-distance coach op-As a result, Mr Williams parted company with his former partners, taking the Drawlane bus interests with him to form

few pounds".

Last year Mr Williams netted a profit of £9m on selling part of his stake in British Bus to venture capitalists. He is thought to have made the £6m payment to Mr McEnhill to thank him for standing by him in tougher times. An adviser said yesterday certain bus interests acquired by it was "entirely within his char-Drawlane would not achieve the acter" for Mr Williams to make that the transfer did not result from any written contract.

National Express had no comment to make yesterday.about the payment

#### Fraud Office investigation into to its former chief executive, the basis of what became British which it said was "a personal Alistair Darling, Labour's Spokesman on the City, said: "I Mills, deputy chief executive of Bus and Mr McEnhill gave up matter between Mr McEnhill his stake in the company for "a and Mr Williams".

#### JOHN SHEPHERD and MATHEW HORSMAN

Lord Forte is to take a back seat in the Forte company's defence against Granada' hostile £3.3bn bid, which threatens to push one of the UK's biggest family business dynasties into the shadows.

The 87-year-old Lord Forte of Ripley, who built up the family ice-cream parlour business into the largest hotel company in the country, will stand aside, leaving Sir Rocco, his son, to take the lead in meetings of the full board and with the compa-

ny's advisers. Lord Forte, who celebrated his birthday yesterday, stepped down from day-to-day involvement in the company's affairs a couple of years ago but remains life president and still at-

tends board meetings.
A spokesman for Forte confirmed yesterday that "Lord Forte will not be directly involved. He wants to leave Roc-

co to run the show." The leading family members have clearly shown that they will ical defence plan to beat Grananot see the business dynasty crumble without a tough fight. da, even though the City Sir Rocco has fired off a salvo believes that the television com-

of personal attacks against Gerry Robinson, chief executive of Granada, since the bid was launched last Wednesday.

There were signs over the weekend, however, that the two sides were aiming to calm things down. Mr Robinson said yesterday: "We want this bid to be depersonalised. We are bidding for a public company." A spokesman for the Forte

camp backed Mr Robinson's call to end the personal mud-slinging, adding. "Of course, there has been a degree of anger. Lord Forte believes the com-

pany can remain independent and added: "We don't need [a white knight]. We already have a knight, my son Rocco." Mr Robinson said: "The issue very straightforward. Forte

has failed its shareholders on every measure over the past five years. Suddenly they are talking about brands, new management and board changes ... but it's too late."

Leisure analysts believe that

pany has not yet put a high enough offer on the table.

Forte's five-year financial record displays several recessionary scars. Profits have been up and down like a yo-yo, and shareholders suffered a divi-Forte will have to devise a raddend cut three years ago and no

increase since. In contrast, Granada has

**Forte** 1993/94 1992/93 £m 2,721 153 1,722 2,718 12.7p 2,662 49 1,704 3,020 3.00 2,641 176 1,436 3,052 1,789 127 2,106 111 1,664 2,352 1,577 Shareholders' funds Earnings per share 10.1p 9.00

	• • •	Granad	la :	·	· · · · · · ·
Year	1994/95 Em	1993/94 £m	1992/93 £m	1991/92 £m	1 <b>990/</b> 91 £m
Turnover Pre-tax profits Net borrowings Stareholders' funds Earnings per share Dividends per share	39.1p	2,098 265 293 502 32.0p 10.0p	1,615 176 402 464 24.80 8.75p	1,340 115 219 562 15.90 7.7p	(110 loss) 262 528 (28.8p)

Five year trading performance

four years following the dive into the red in 1990/91, when the group suffered losses of £110m.

The dividend has consistently

grown profits in each of the past will collect £70m in bid fees.

improved, and last week the to-tal for the 1994/95 year was lifted 17.5 per cent to 11.75p. Shareholders will not be alone in sharing in Granada's trading improvements. Advisers



At a time when instruments unerringly cope with Mach 2 flight data, continued improvements to the mechanical chronograph simply underscore that there's more to time than technology A movement's intricate beauty or a hand-polished case's lustrous gleam do put technological progress in a broader perspective.

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INSTRUMENTS FOR PROFESSIONALS

#### **GAVYN DAVIES**

The bad news is that the pervading sense of pessimism in the economy, especially in the consumer sector. could make firms unwilling to hold stocks in the hope that final demand may eventually revive'

### Politics points to the wrong Budget strategy When Norman Lamont announced in 1993 that the traditional spring Bud-

get date would henceforward be moved forward to November, I was one of the few people who thought this was a bad idea. I still do. Although there is the superficial advantage that tax and spending plans are now announced on the same day, it is hard to un-derstand why this is thought crucial.

A much more important principle is to take economic decisions at the last possible moment from an administrative point of view, so that policy can always incorporate the most up-to-date information. Under the new arrangement, tax plans are announced four full months before they need be and, in those four months, much can change. The unnecessary four-month lag is particularly important this year, since there is a severe risk that the behaviour of the economy could

change markedly over that period. Not that the Budget documentation will recognise this risk. It is usually quite easy to forecast what will be contained in the Treasury's forecast. Tomorrow's official view is likely to show real GDP growth of 2.5 per cent in 1996, with underlying inflation at the end of next year also at 2.5 per cent. But while this will be the central expectation, it has probably been entered into the Budget Red Book with a rather shaky hand by Alan Budd and his Treasury team.

The problem is that output growth may be about to take a severe dent from a sharp turnaround in the stock-building cycle. Goldman Sachs has just downgraded its 1996 GDP forecast from 2.7 to 1.7 per cent, and many other forecasters are probably just on the point of doing something similar.

A serious setback to activity would catch politicians on both sides of the fence unawares. It is my strong impression that Stocks for two reasons. First, there were fears of continuing rises in commodity prices, so in stocks accounted for the whole of the 0.4 that stage, companies were eager to build a year. Most recently, things have become unwilling to hold stocks in the hope that final demand may eventually revive. According to the mean of continuing rises in commodity prices, so in stocks accounted for the whole of the 0.4 the new Goldman Sachs forecast, the most unawares. It is my strong impression that Westminster is basically assuming the economy is performing well, and that it will con-tinue to do so right through to the election. All hell would break loose in the Tory Party if there were a prolonged period of rising unemployment during the winter. This is no longer a remote possibility. At minimum, the next few months could see some really gruesome manufacturing output figures. As this column pointed out last week, the word from

firms in continental Europe has become increasingly grim in recent weeks, and this is bound to impact UK export sales soon. Much of the downturn in European activ ity has stemmed from the inventory cycle, and the same is now true of the UK. During 1994, when Britain's GDP grew by 4.3 per cent, the accumulation of stocks was of continuing rises in commodity prices, so companies decided to stockpile primary goods. Second, there was increasing confidence that final demand would accelerate in 1995, and companies began to build up stocks of finished goods in anticipation of rising sales. In the first half of 1995, changing perceptions about commodity prices and final demand caused firms to rethink stock levels; ever since, they have been trying to

reduce the quantity of goods on the shelves. Unfortunately, they have not yet succeeded. Over the past year, the level of stocks has actually risen by 4.4 per cent, more than double the rate of growth in output. As a result the stock/output ratio has risen in a worrying fashion. For example, in manufacturing, the stock/output ratio has risen by 4.1 per cent in the past 12 months, compared



per cent increase in GDP. Other components

of demand contributed nothing at all. A rise in the stock/output ratio is quite normal in the upswing phase of the cycle. But the CBI survey, and other business surveys, are clearly showing that companies are increasingly eager to get rid of these excess stocks. The November Monthly Trends Enquiry by the CBI recorded a balance of 18 per cent of companies saying the stocks of finished goods are too high, against 6 per

cent in the spring.

More worrying still, the gap in the CBI survey between what firms say they want to see happening to stocks in future, and what has actually happened, is even higher than it was when the economy entered recession in 1990. This suggests a near-record buildup of unwanted inventory. It is anyone's guess how fast these excessive goods on the shelves will be whittled down to more normal levels. If companies expect 1996 to be a good year for sales, they may be tolerant about the current level of stocks. If they begin to doubt the sustainability of growth. they might decide to curtail stocks rapidly, and they could only do this by slashing out-

What is a reasonable central estimate of the speed of this adjustment." The good news is that companies have a strong cush flow position and the cost of financing stocks is

not excessive. The bad news is that the pervading sense of pessimism in the economy, especially in the consumer sector, could make them

likely out-turn is that the decline in stocks will reduce the growth rate of GDP by about 1 per cent on average in the 1996 calendar year, and by somewhat more in the next six months. Like all forecasts which are crucially based on a guesstimate of how stocks will behave, this projection should be seen as having a particularly wide margin of error. But the chances of a period of declining output in the manufacturing sector, with a clear renewed rise in unemployment, are defi-

nitely rising.
It would still be surprising if this turned into a serious recession, but policy now needs to take account of this possibility especially since the drop in manufacturing activity will greatly increase the chances of the Government hitting its inflation target

in two years. In the absence of an impending election, the correct macro-economic strategy would be to leave the overall level of personal taxes unchanged; to increase public spending on the infrastructure, taking advantage of the slack in the construction sector; and to reduce interest rates for the duration of the stock shake-out, probably increasing them

again in 6-12 months. Sadly, political imperative points to the opposite - personal tax bribes, financed by further cuts in public infrastructure spending, and with a path for the PSBR that will make interest rate cuts harder to achieve than they need be. But then no one ever said that good politics and good economics need

Wealth warning: The invasion of London by foreign banks has significantly raised the level of strategic influence they wield

### EMU key to City's future

The City will suffer if Britain stays out of European monetary union. The warning is delivered with a faint smile, but Ronaldo Schmitz's words carry cold calculation. "We would not anticipate a major shift of business out of London, at least not in the short term. But things will be much easier if the UK joins, because we shall not have to review our decisions, strategy

and policies." Mr Schmitz, 57, chairman of Deutsche Morgan Grenfell and board member of Deutsche Bank, is one of the growing band of senior foreign financiers who have lately adopted London as the centre of their investment banking operations. Their influence is for the most part still discreet, but increasingly powerful within the chang-

ing landscape of the City. Dentsche's decision last year to centre its global investment banking operations in London around Morgan Grenfell, which it had bought at the end of the Eighties, marked a watershed for Germany's most powerful financial group. All the large Ger-

man banks have followed suit.
A potent combination of fate, in the case of Barings, and remorseless competitive pressures from big-balance sheet houses, has seen an unprecedented number of British merchant banks, the leading broker and a fund manager, fall to the foreign invaders. Their significant investments have bolstered London's position as Europe's financial capital. But the size and speed of the shift in the balance towards foreign ownership has fuelled concerns about who controls the City's future,

should circumstances change EMU could be one such event. Deutsche took its decision to focus on London well aware of Britain's Euro-angst, but confident that, as has usually happened in the past, it will not want to be left out. "I think the process under way in the City will also play a role in defining the UK's attitude towards

EMU," says Mr Schmitz. Deutsche put immense efforts into building up Frankfurt as its investment banking centre. But by 1994 it finally conceded it could not work, a decision whose implications reverberated throughout the Ger-

man business establishment. "luvestment banking is, culturally speaking, an Anglo-Saxon business, driven by impulses from the most inventive financial culture in the world, New York. In building our operation,

When we saw the opportunity, we grabbed

we realised the importance of using elements from an investment bank, Morgan Grenfell, and not those from the bureaucracy of commercial

"It is also easier to speak English in London than Frankfurt, and to attract the talent that is crucial if you want to grow quickly.'

#### THE MONDAY INTERVIEW

#### RONALDO SCHMITZ

pastures and inspiration.

several years, Deutsche's deci-

sion finally to use London as the

springboard for its ambitions to

be in the premier league of

global investment banking pow-erhouses unleashed a dash for

growth that has frayed not a few

tempers in the City. Since the

beginning of the year, Deutsche

Morgan Grenfell has hired 120

people, most of them in Lon-

don, and many of them heavy

hitters. Complaints from rivals

about excessive chequebook poaching grew louder. "When

we first made our announce-

ment in October 1994 about in-

vestment banking, we could not have realistically enter-

tained the ambition to hire 120

people. But then things in the

market happened that tended

to facilitate matters. When we

saw the opportunity, we grabbed," said Mr Schmitz, "We

strongly resist the chequebook

and light back in Germany, as

the big egos of the investment

banking world, and their infi-

nitely higher remuneration

packages, clashed with the staid

hierarchies of Frankfurt. Re-

sentment was rife. But Deutsche had made its choice.

"It was impossible to build an

investment bank and maintain

Not all has been sweetness

With acquisitive foreigners still rustling their chequebooks around the City, those alarmed that Britain is losing control of its financial capital are unlikely to find comfort. But with that cultivated internationalism and fluent mid-Atlantic English typical of so many top German businessmen, Mr Schmitz, who spent several years in New York for his previous firm, the chemicals giant BASF, feels chauvinism has little place any more in truly global markets. "In the old days the customer paid a lot of attention to where a product came from. 'Made in Germany' was important. But the Japanese were the first to convince

from, but the brand quality."
He added: "The great advantage of Britain is that it has traditionally been good at absorbing elements, capital or people, from the outside, and making them feel part of the establishment, integrating them for the benefit of the country. In 10 years, this latest foreigner influx into the City will have been shaped along Anglo-Sax-on traditions and lines, and with it the influence emanating from London will increase."

consumers that it is not impor-

tant where something comes

But even if belatedly, corporate Germany has been changing too, waking up to the cost advantages of producing abroad and raising finance on international capital markets. This has

the German remuneration system, so we put the Frankfurt invesiment bankers on a more adequate compensation. But there were other shocks. You are not just talking about inforced once conservative banks troducing different cultures, like Deutsche to seek foreign but also very different skill levels, people who are used to working at very high, demand-Having sat around doing little with Morgan Grenfell for

ing levels. In its global ambitions, wanting to measure itself against the Wall Street giants, Deutsche is far from alone. Its domestic rival, Dresdner, wants to do the same with the help of Kleinwort Benson. Then there are SBC Warburg and UBS, ING Barings and ABN Amro, not forgetting the British contingent of NatWest Markets, BZW and HSBC.

All are regrouping in London for the assault. But they cannot all succeed in a such a ferociously competitive business. "You need three things to win. A top rating, a strong cap-

ital base, and talent. Since we have the first two, we have been concentrating on skills." Moreover, it is not a battle of equals in Mr Schmitz's view, because of the vital importance of

the client base. "Deutsche Bank has traditionally been close to the big corporations of the world. We can tap into this strong position. The British banks, too, have traditionally had international corporate relationships. But the Swiss, the Dutch and the French don't have this. It is very tough to break into new clients."

John Eisenhammer



Power shift: Ronaldo Schmitz, chairman of Deutsche Morgan Grenfell

### Wu do you think you are kidding?

It was typical of the flamboy-ance of Hong Kong busi-nessman Gordon Wu to make a record-breaking donation of \$100m (£64m) to Princeton University recently. It was equally typical, say his critics, that he arranged to pay the money in stages and that there was some small print about matching donations before the full amount was paid.

Mr Wu has a habit of doing things in stages and the deadlines for the stages have a habit of being passed without fulfilment. None of this, however, has dissuaded bevies of fund

and VIEW FROM ings., Name-calling fawning journalists from beating a path to his HONG KONG door. He has presented him-

really understands Asia's infrastructure needs and has found a way for the private sector to work with governments in meeting their requirements, without having to dip directly in the national coffers.

His flagship company, Hopewell Holdings, was pop-ping up all over Asia, announcing deals to build power stations, roads and all manner of other projects. At first Hopewell's focus was on China. then it moved south to parts of South East Asia and then north

to India and Pakistan. The newspapers were filled with pictures of a smiling Mr Wu in the company of political leaders whose countries were about to receive the benefit of ever, end there; the second a Hopewell scheme. Gradually

He's full of ideas for solving Asia's infrastructure problems. But can he turn them into reality?

the pictures of smiling faces gave way to reports of bitter disagreement between Hopewell and practically all its Chinese joint venture partners. In the Philippines, power projects were mired in litigation, and in Thailand the government be-came so fed up with delays to Mr Wu's road, rail and mass transit project that the deputy prime minister, Thaksin Shinawatra, publicly described Hopewell as "Hopeless Hold-

Hopewell's self as a visionary, the man who share price is another, more serious, matter. More than 40 per cent has been wiped off the price of Hopewell's shares since

is one thing, a

their high point this year. It has taken time, and the release of some disturbing figures, for investors to finally realise that Mr Wu talks a great story but rarely delivers. One of his better stories concerns the turnkey project to build a so called "super-highway" from the Hong Kong border to the Chinese regional capital of Canton. Mr Wu first told his shareholders that HK\$9.4bn (£780m) had been budgeted for the highway's' construction. He has now revealed that another HK\$5.4bn (£448m) is required. Cost inflation does not, how-

completed and it is almost certain that additional funding will be required.

Some Hopewell watchers believe that the total cost will end up being around double the sum budgeted. Not only is the highway way off budget, it is also way off schedule. Completion was due by the end of 1993, and during that year Mr Wu promised to jump into Hong Kong's Victoria Harbour if the project was not completed. The harbour's waters remain unruffled by his bulky presence. Moreover, it seems that usage of the part of the road that has opened is far below projections.

Over in Bangkok, the Thai government is furning about the late completion of Hopewell's elevated road, rail and mass transit project. Costs, according to Mr Wu, may rise to HK\$30bn -as opposed to the HK\$24.5bn illy estimated. Recently the Thai government reluc-tantly decided to allow Hopewell to continue with the project, despite the fact that only a tiny part of the work has been completed. Assurances have been given that the road part of the project would be fin-ished by June 1998 and the rail

system by December 1999. As project delays mounted so did Hopewell's debt. The accounts for the year to 30 June show debts of HK\$7.1bn, producing gearing of 60 per cent. Debts are forecast to rise bephase of the project remains un- youd HK\$9bn in the coming

year, yet he claims that the debtto-asset ratio is 32 per cent.

was being digested there were dark mutterings of pressure from the Hongkong Bank, Hopewell's main lender. Hopewell maintained a complete silence on this and other matters. A number of requests for interviews with Mr Wu were turned down. However last week Mr Wu

suddenly agreed to an impromptu session with the media, at which he said that because investors seemed to be so concerned about debt, he would create a debt-free company. He talked of selling off stakes in the super-highway for some HK\$40bn - and of selling a part of the Bangkok project. The basis of his valuation of these projects is tenuous to the point of incredulity. The superhighway is not expected to make money for another 10 years and it is anyone's guess when the Bangkok project will

be completed. However, selling assets is something of a Wu speciality. Every year since 1990, Hopewell has been selling off property assets to make its bottom line look better. In so doing it has been depriving itself of an important revenue- earning stream. Two years ago this started to take its toll. The last set of results, for the year to June 1995, show that a mere 21 per cent of operating profit

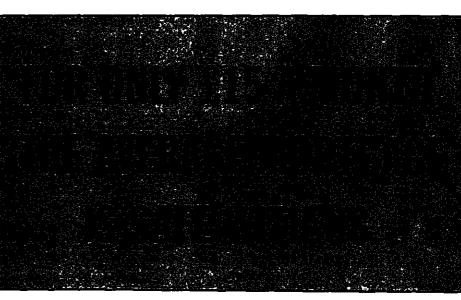


Gordon Wu: man of vision

was derived from its core businesses, the rest came from asset sales and treasury operation

A rights issue to clear some of the debt is pretty much out of the question. More borrowings would push gearing to as-tronomical levels and so Mr Wu plans to sell more of the family silver. Or does he? A day after the media briefing, the board of Hopewell issued a statement which read: "The directors wish to emphasise that the consideration of the disposal is at an early stage and as such the disposal may or may not

The directors have now managed to sow confusion where there was previously doubt. The chickens may be coming home to roost for one of Hong Kong's few companies which showed real signs of global vision and innovation. The problem is that the vision was not combined with the means



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### business

#### **TODAY**

Companies
Profits at distribution group Christian Saivesen are expected to be flat for the third consecutive year. Profits at the half-year stage should come in at around £41.5m The hot summer weather increased costs of running the UK refrigerated truck fleet which put pressure on margins.

In Europe there is better news with new contracts won nesses have been performing in Holland and France. First- strongly. half profits at the food processing division are expected to to see if the board has shifted be down by 30 per cent after a slump in the pea crop.

Interims: European Colour,

Finals: Euromoney, Morland. Merrydown, Neepsend, Seeboard, Arthur Shaw.

Finals: Tunstall Group. AGMs: Allied Leisure, Azlan, Lloyds Bank, Serif, Sunset &

#### **TOMORROW**

The Budget will overshadow the rest of the day's business be compared with recent fig-

news, with the markets braced for tax cuts and other boosts to consumer expenditure.

Elsewhere, Severn Trent continues the water companies' reporting season with Yorkshire Water and South West to follow later in the week.

Half-year profits at Severn

Trent are expected to edge up

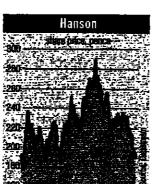
to £175m according to Nat West Securities. Both the main water utility and waste management busi-

The market will be watching its stance on buying back 10 per cent of the company's shares. AGMs: Biocure, Hi-Tec Sports, Lucas Industries.

#### WEDNESDAY

The supermarket sector will be centre stage again with results from Argyli, the Safeway

At the trading level, like-for-like sales could have increased



ures from both Sainsbury and by as much as 6 per cent.

helped by a good summer. Profits at Tate & Lyle should Analysts are forecasting a 4show healthy growth to around £302m for last year. However, 5 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to around £214m at the halfanalysts are forecasting a tough way stage. Profits will be restrained by the cost of the Safeway 2000 review of the 1996 for the group. The latest development regarding the US Farm Bill do not look helpful. Next year's forecasts are expected to be lowered to around

£315m. Interims: Evans of Leeds, Marston Thompson, Mid Kent Holdings, Northamber. Finals: John Waddington, Yorkshire Water.

#### THURSDAY

Full-year profits at Hanson are forecast to rise from £1bn to £1.35bn. City attention will be focused on an expected increase in the dividend and a profits update at Quantum, the chemicals business.

business is another possibility. However the company will be under pressure to convince the market that there is still value in the current business portfolio.

THE WEEK AHEAD

its increase with its contribution forecast to rise from £121m to £440m. Net debt, including the East-Quantum Chemicals will ac-

debt, including the Eastern Electricity deal, should rise to around £4.5bn, giving gearing of 115 per cent. This makes disposals likely.

Full year profits at Grand Metropolitan are expected to be flat at £1.07bn though the outlook is encouraging, Food operations helped by

January's acquisition of Pet should perform strongly though the drinks division will be affected by one -off factor such as the loss of the Absolut vodka franchise.

demerger of the aggregates Interims: BPB Industries, Bristol Evening Post, Bristol Biotech, Castings, European Motor Holdings, Fenchurch. GEI Intl. Hogg Robinson. Johnson Matthey.

Finals: MEPC, RM, Royal Bank of Scotland, Scottish Ra-

#### FRIDAY

Wolverhampton and Dudley, the Midlands brewer, is expected to increase only mod-est profits growth despite the good summer. Profits for the half-year are forecast to be

This underlines the difficulties facing the group with its tied pub estate that includes a number of outlets facing longterm decline. The Camerons acquisition is not yet making a significant contribution to the bottom line.

Interims: Vendome.
Finals: McCarthy & Stone.
AGMs: Argent, Eleco Holdings, Honeysuckle, Manganese Bronze, Manchester United, Prestwick Holdings, Unigate.

Priday brings the only other sig-nificant economic news this week. The Purchasing Managers Survey will give the latest indication of the degree of slowdown in manufacturing. The recent pattern of slower



growth and weaker price pressures is likely to be repeated. The whole world visible trade deficit is expected to have been slightly lower in

September than August, but still around £1bn. Figures from the Bank of England on consumer credit

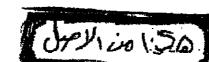
are expected to show another big increase in October. Partial figures from the British Bankers' Association have already indicated that consumer lending by the high street banks reached record levels in the mouth.

The Nationwide house price index for November will be released, followed at the weekend by the Halifax index.

Overseas, the US National Association of Purchasing Managers' survey will indicate whether the pace of expansion in US manufacturing is slow-

Many analysts on Wali Street expect the Federal Reserve to reduce interest rates soon, but strong figures in the next week or two could dampen those hopes.

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### Better improves Brooks' ranking

Ceptacles and shredded tickets there was the debris of a broken image for workmen to shovel up at Newbury on Saturday.

The Hennessy Gold Cup had gone to Couldnt Be Better, a horse trained by Charlie Brooks, who is probably too much for some of the old school. In a sport where the upper echelons are almost exclu-sively in tweeds and ringing with public school accents, Brooks has the right background. He wears the gear and has snaps of

his days at Eton in the album. However, when it comes to aristocratic reserve, it is hard to get Charlie's reading off zero. He may have been born with a silver spoon in his mouth, but he is one of those few privileged chaps who would not mind shoving a hot dog in there as

When he wins it becomes plainly obvious (he does not confine his celebration to just among owners) and when he comes into view his presence also becomes plainly obvious, Saturday's deviation from the traditional garb of the brotherhood was his favourite long, canary gaberdine.

In addition, his presence on the news pages (his relationship with Miriam Francome gets the society hacks in a lather of excitement) probably lead many to believe he did not have the qualities for the job. Like Lanfranco Dettori before him, the jealous considered he was having too much damned fun to be a true professional. As with Dettori, they will now have to reconsider. Saturday should finally leave in rubble the thought that Charlie Brooks is something of a dilettante.

This trainer, beneath the smiles and countenance which suggests he is something less than his 33 years, is desperately competitive. He once told this reporter that the day he thinks he cannot keep at the highest level will be the day he rummages in the desk for the P45. The paperwork can lay undis-



COMMENTARY

**EDMONDSON** 

turbed after the events of the weekend (the Uplands yard also captured the Fighting Fifth Hurdle at Newcastle with Padre Mio), though Brooks himself was not in dancing mood immediately after the Hennessy. The trainer had been under a general anaethestic for a knee operation on Thursday and, judging from his sombre reaction, it appeared there was still dopiness in his body. He felt slightly empty because he had

RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Relkowen (Worcester 12.50) NB: Tallywagger (Kelso 2.00)

insisted that Graham Bradley. his riding lieutenant, should partner the stable's other runner in the big race, Black Humour. "I feel a bit guilty because I made Brad ride Black Hu-mour," Brooks said. "The first thing he did when he came back was congratulate mc. He's a first class bloke. He seemed more pleased than I did."

Bradley was also praised by winning rider Dean Gallagher, the beneficiary of wise words on how to ride Couldnt Be Better. The wisdom, and indeed clarity, of their conversation was far more contentious on Saturday evening after the pair had joined a large party at the Queen's Arms in Lambourn.

The Hennessy had also been a big moment for Gallagher. At 26, the man from Co Kildare is not a buzz jockey in betting been caused by the ch shops, but Brooks said: "He jockey's sigh of relief.

might be underestimated by the racing public but he isn't by

the racing professionals."
When it came to Gallagher's own assessment of his performance, someone had hidden the trumpet. "I just had to keep the horse balanced, get him jumping and make sure he got the trip," the jockey said. "He could have won with 12st on his back. I've ridden Dubacilla into second place in a Gold Cup, so I know what it takes to win it. He's in that class."

The bookmakers have yet to be convinced however and Ladbrokes (not known as purvey ors of unnecessary kindness) have Couldnt Be Better at 25-1 for Cheltenham next March. What is undisputed, though, is that the gelding's display saved a race that became dangerous-ly adjacent to an anti-climax after One Man's late withdrawal For a while the crowd's mood was as black as the sky.

Ante-post bets were lost on the grey (perhaps this explained Ladbrokes's munificence later on) when Gordon Richards announced the short-priced favourite would not be risked on ground which had turned from porridge flakes to the consistency after milk has been added.

One Man will get another chance to advertise his Gold Cup prospects, a feat accom-plished at Punchestown on Saturday by Merry Gale, Coral saw the gelding's performance (he did little more than have to stay alive after the early departure of Klairon Davis) as reason to cut his price to 7-1 for Cheltenham. Before then the gelding may reward Bradley elsewhere, as he was yesterday named as the horse's partner for the King George VI Chase at

This weekend's series of events must also have cheered Richard Dunwoody, who stuck with Merry Gale despite being offered the ride on One Man. If the wind seemed to be whistling westwards off Newbury on Saturday, it may have been caused by the champion

Kempton on Boxing Day.



Heads together: Dean Gallagher in a victory pose with Couldnt Be Better after their Hennesy Gold Cup triumph at Newbury on Saturday

2.50 Pete The Parson (nb) 1.20 Barna Boy 1.50 Ambleskie Harvest 3.50 The Grey Frian 2.20 Bear Claw

WORCESTER

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None. LING-DISTANCE ETRIVERS: Ambiendo Revest (1.50) & Namenty Puture (2.50) have sent 211 miles by J.J.O'Nell from Shelton Wood End. Cumbria.

6 YORKSHOE FOR (15) (As Young Alson) if Alson / 10 12

6 YORKSHOE FOR (15) (As Young Alson) if Alson / 10 12

10: 7-1 Reliminer, 9-2 Queens Cookel, 9-1 General With Me, 20-1 others

FORMS (15) A Selection, 12-1 Clarical Queens, 14-1 Come Desce With Me, 20-1 others

FORMS (15) A Selection, 15-1 Clarical Queens, 14-1 Come Desce With Me, 20-1 others

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L20 XEMPSEY HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS C) £6,500 added:

11,1380 BARRA ROY (RE) (234 (Lynn Wison) N Handerson 7 12 0 M A Ritogerald

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12835-1 MORTHER WINT (RE) (12) (9) (Die Briss Partnership R Philips 8 11 4 M Brissen

12835-1 MORTHER (RE) (23) (0) (B.L Blinnen) P Nichols 7 11 4 R Demonology

1115-17 JAMES THE REST (23) (0) (B.L Blinnen) P Nichols 7 11 4 M Brissen

12835-1 MORTHER (RE) (13) (0) (S T Pintsh) (Charles-Jones 7 10 8 J M Bell-mark

BETTENS: 2-1 Time Won't Wart, 100-30 Barrat Boy, 9-2 Lackendarz, 5-1 Northern Saidler, 6-1 James The First, 14-1 Wildpars Designt
FORM GUIDE
TIME WON'T WAIT was a hundles winner in 1993-84 and landed his first five races and six in all when switched to the larger obstacles last rem. Unplaced on his first two outings this season, he returned to score by 12 lengths at Saration last month and best Full O' Praise by seven lengths at Haydock 12 days ago. Northern Saidler was 15 lengths too good for Dear Do under 12st at Newton Abbot two weeks ago and, though raised 5b, wall shoulder 10th less here.

— 14 declared —
BETTINE: 4-1 Mr Woodlark, 5-1 Time For A Flatine, 6-1 Deamond Gold, 7-1 Floly Jee, 8-1 Masstrate, 10-1 has belight, 12-1 Ambieside Harvest, 14-1 others.
FORM GUIDE
MR WOODLARK justified favouritism carrying 11st 10th at Easter last month on his first
appearance strice finding Frankus had a length too good at Newton Abbot in May and,
open to further unprovement, can follow up off a 7th higher mark. Time For A Flutter
task run well to be placed in both his races this season. Maestroso landed his single start
bet season, at Hawlood to May on his first ninger for nearly 16 months. He has not be less season at Haydock in May on his first outing for nearly 16 months. He has not see out since and is on top weight, but could be in at the finish. Holy Joe is getting on a years but still looks capable of playing a prominent part. Selection: MR WOODLASM

220 BET WITH THE TOTE NOWICE CHASE (QUALIFIER) (CLASS E) £4,000 added 2m 4f 110yds Penalty Value £3,155

1 OUAL BROWN (279) (Ms M Wiggs) T Forser 5 11 B C University Value £3,155

1 OUAL BROWN (259) (Nosch Foods Limited) 0 Shewood 6 11 0 J Johnson 3

4 POS-OUU DOWN RISE NE (RE) (22) (M R Churches) M Churches 6 11 0 R Desmood 5 11 (Ms Charles) M Churches M Churches 6 11 0 R Desmood 5 233121 NM (UNIFIER (RE) (23) 0 R Noncol D Nicholson 6 11 0 R Desmood 7 OUPOU UTILE GAMES (23) (800 Revisel R Les 6 11 0 M M Sheet 7 OUPOU UTILE GAMES (23) (800 Revisel R Les 6 11 0 M M Sheet 7 OUPOU UTILE GAMES (23) (800 Revisel R Les 6 11 0 M M Sheet 7 OUPOU UTILE GAMES (23) (800 Revisel R Les 6 11 0 M M Sheet 7 OUPOU UTILE GAMES (23) (800 Revisel R Les 6 11 0 M M Sheet 7 OUPOU UTILE GAMES (23) (800 Revisel R Les 6 11 0 M M Sheet 7 OUPOU UTILE GAMES (23) (800 Revisel R Les 6 11 0 M M Sheet 7 OUPOU UTILE GAMES (23) (800 Revisel R Les 6 11 0 M M Sheet 7 OUPOU UTILE GAMES (23) (800 Revisel R Les 6 11 0 M M Sheet 7 OUPOU UTILE GAMES (23) (800 Revisel R Les 6 11 0 M M Sheet 7 OUPOU UTILE GAMES (23) (800 Revisel R Les 6 11 0 M M Sheet 7 OUPOU UTILE GAMES (23) (800 Revisel R Les 6 11 0 M M Sheet 7 OUPOU UTILE GAMES (23) (800 Revisel R Les 6 11 0 M M Sheet 7 OUPOU UTILE GAMES (23) (800 Revisel R Les 6 11 0 M M Sheet 7 OUPOU UTILE GAMES (23) (800 R M Sheet 7 OUPOU M SHEET 7 OUPOU UTILE GAMES (23) (800 R M Sheet 7 OUPOU M SHEET 7

PORM GUIDE

HEBRIDEAN, Mag Lucifer and Beer Claw male their fencing bows. Hebridean had few superiors among last season's staying novice hurdiers, as he showed when beating Dorans Pride the lengths in Ascor's Long Walk Hurdle and, shappened up by a run over time beating. King Lucifer produced more than useful over hurdles with Stratford and Ascot victories, but the main danger should be Bear Claw. The five-year-old went from strength to strength when binkered on hurdles, winning at Warwork (by so lengths from Even How), Kempton by 15 lengths and Cheltenham, where he short-headed Treasure Again.

Selections: HEBRIDEAN. 2.50 SPETCHLEY NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £2,800 added

3.20 MALVERN HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS F) £3,500 added 2m 7 Penalty Value £2,987

3.4PF TALE OF SEDURANCE (RE) (S) (Cest la Ve Partnemin) C Marro 7 12 0 \_\_\_\_ I Raiton 2 463314 MENTON POINT (\$17) PPS Roard Partnering) T George 6 11 12 \_\_\_\_\_ C Mande 3 4/41 RECKSONE (14) (2a) Vester) Miss H Wagt 8 11 9 \_\_\_\_ I Failey 1 134/PV VOUNA F32 (27) Out Richardon Hores Roard Linhard R Rose 10 11 9 \_\_\_ O T Descentible 5 35F-281 LINEN ARM (14) Rechard Weeks C Pophare 8 11 9 \_\_\_\_ I Descentible (5) 5 FOU.2 MM VALENTIME (12) OR H Liberray C Roard 9 11 7 \_\_\_\_\_ W Moreton 7 6405F-2 MALUAN ROAD (18) (Creates) Miss A Entitation 11 11 6 \_\_\_\_\_ I Read 9 2012 I MULES SMEDI (34) (46) I H Estate) B Esting 8 11 3 \_\_\_\_\_ W Miscriotri 7 6405F-2 MALUAN ROAD (18) (Creates) Miss A Entitation 11 11 6 \_\_\_\_\_ I Read 9 2012 I MISS MEDIO (88) (23) (68) J McCommack (R Fines 8 11.2 \_\_\_\_\_ Fines 8 11.2 \_\_\_\_\_ Fines 1 1 PPA-P COURT MEDIO (88) (21) (68) CAULIN P MORE PS PROMOTED CASTAE (23) (67) (60) CAULIN P MORE PS PS COURT MEDIO (88) (21) (68) CAULIN P MORE PS COURT MEDIO (88) (21) (68) CAULIN P MORE PS TILL A P McCoy 12 PRPSP P COURT MEDIO (88) (21) (68) CAULIN P MORE PS TILL A P McCoy 12 PRPSP P ROSE LANCASTER (25) (61 GRID) M Golfin 12 10 0 \_\_\_\_\_ B Festion (5) \_\_\_\_ 12 declared \_\_\_\_ BETTING 7-2 Richardon, 4-1 Waterford Castde, 6-1 Locky Again, 6-1 Court Melody, 8-1 Newton Polant, 9-1 Regim Road, 10-1. Jim Valentine, 14-1 others

FORM GLADE
There should be better still to come from TRICKSOME, who had a good point-to-point ecold with eight wins and gained his first success under Rules when coming home by a distance from market leader Master Hunter in a maiden chase at Plumpton a formight ago. Lucky Again won on that same Plumpton card, bearing Victory Anthem 20 lengus, and recorded a faster time, though he wee shouldering 20to less. He goes off only a higher mark and may prove Tricksome's toughest mail.

Selection: TRICKSOME.

3.50 LADYWOOD MAIDEN NATIONAL HANT FLAT RACE (CLASS H) £1,500 added 2m Penalty Value £1,455

BAXMORDHY LOND (Surband Weeks) C Pophana 4 11.4

CHANT THE MAIN (Alex Sander Worthington) In Walker 4 11.4

C COLUMNIA (224) (MAX Yourne Alsoy R Alsoy 4 11.4

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O COLUMNIA (224) (MAX Yourne Alsoy R Alsoy 4 11.4

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SULVER (1988) (Struggion Homes Lind FORUMY LORD (Ruchard Weeks) C Proham 4 11 4 O-D MILLY LE MOSS (RE) (12) (Mrs M A Eckley) R Eckley 6 10 13. O-D PARTY BEDLAM (12) (Mrs S M Walters) C Lumis 8 10 13....

- 22 declared -BETTBIG: 3-1 Forest Ivery, 4-1 Scientstradigger, 6-1 The Grey Film, 8-1 Raise And Goln, 10-1 Pildagina, Royal Silver, 12-1 cities - 22 dec

XTHE INDEPENDEN Horse Racing Results **6839 - 111 171** Commentary 0839 - 111 175



### Gallagher executes a tall order

The way Charlie Brooks planned it, Dean Gallagher would tuck Couldnt Be Better in behind the nace until there was only one more fence to negotiate. "In these conditions it was vital to delay the commitment," he said.

Gallagher obeyed the trainer exactly. Coming past the stands first time around he was comfortably in touch, more or less where Brooks wanted him. The leader, Rough Quest was jumping so well it may have occurred to Gallagher that a decisive move was called for but he resisted the temptation.

After they turned into the straight Rough Quest's jockey. Jamie Osborne, probably sensed that he no longer held a winning advantage in the Hennessy Gold Cup. It had been a hard slog over three-anda-quarter miles in driving rain and Couldnt Be Better was trainer, Gordon Richards, just suddenly upsides and moving 45 minutes before the race, urgently. "When he soared over Brooks believed in Couldn! Be



### on Monday

the second-last, I knew there was still plenty under me, and after the last he powered away. Gallagher said.

In a sodden winner's enclowithdrawn on the advice of his Retter but be could not set aside persistent doubts about the gelding's stamina and the chalenge of his other entry, Black Humour.

This resulted in a big disap-pointment for Graham Bradley, the stable jockey, who was sent out on Black Humour but in common with the breed he was philosphical when splashing by to the weighing room. "What a smile on his mud-spattered

It was hardly that for the 26dle after some disappointments of his own, most obviously in the Gold Cup at Cheltenham last year when he finished second on sure you could reflect on the va- Dubacilla. "I kept telling myself is all about."

After hours of driving rain that fell over a bleak winter landscape, Newbury was be-

gining to resemble a swamp but you could imagine that Gallagher barely noticed. He stood beaming in the drizzle, happily answering all that was put to

Something similar can be

said about Brooks who was still feeling pain from a knee operation. "It doesn't feel so sore right now," he said, turned out in a yellow oilskin, a cap pulled bollocks," Bradley said with a low down over his hairline. Nobody could be sure that Brooks fied in giving priority to One had been fully instrumental in Man's welfare and long-term the choice of mounts for prospects first but this did not year-old Gallagher who had the best day of his life in the sad-sponsibility. "I wanted to give both horses the best possible chance," he said, "and thought Brad would get the best out of Black Humour."

When conditions grew steadily worse, the downpour unrelenting, Brooks may have thought less of Couldnt Be Better's chances which was a who was also withdrawn, in the One Man's connections on the things had gone swimmingly.

announcement of his defec-

In view of difficulties imposed by a change in the going a substantial case could be made for not risking the favourite, but as one disgruntled punter put it. racing is kept alive by the audience, "I don't think I wouldhave come out on a day like this if I'd thought One Man might not be going," he said.

Gordon Richards felt instimake him popular around the betting windows. "This is not just any old handicap," somebody else said. "It's one of the big races, so once again the punters suffer."

Gallagher was oblivious to the controversy and how things might have turned out with One Man and Young Hustler, view expressed generally about field. He'd got the ride and

SHEPHEROS DEAN (11) P Hestern 80 ... BETTING: 7-4 Poses Gold, 7-2 Session ty, 8-1 Revenue, Beverly Hills, 20-1 off

2 000003 PEACEPILL REPLY (7) F Les 5 9 3 A. C. 3 65300 PERSIAN FLOWER (7) G Bickey 3 8 5. P Mod. 4 52 DAMISSON CLA) P Sers 3 8 3 ... S 5 6 122-110 SWEET DISCONDER (CT4) B Modenn 5 8 2 ... C Te 5 6 122-110 SWEET DISCONDER (CT4) B Modenn 5 8 2 ... N W 2 2 30000 MMZBLA (7) R3 A Streets 3 8 1 ... N W 2 2 30000 MMZBLA (7) R3 A Streets 3 8 1 ... N W 3 10 536443 EQUALIBRIUM (63) J Hilb 3 7 11 ... M H

GOUNG: SERNEAU.

STALLS: Ti & 1 m CI - outside; remainder - inside.

DRAW ADVANTAGE: High from 6I to 1 m 4I.

Fibreshed, leit-hand, oval course.

Course is north of town on A49 Staffort road. Bus service from Wolverhampton railway station (service from London English).

Horsetrader (4.40).
WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Nove.
LONG-DISTANCE EUNNERS: Northern Spark (4.10) has been sent 255 railes by Was L. A Perratt from Ayr, Strathefyde.

2YO 7f

2.40 DAVIES ROSE LIFFORD HALL CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) (DIV I) £3,150 added

1m 1f

2.10 Victim Of Love 2.40 Dannistar 3.10 Sweet Supposin 3.40 Domoor 4.10 BENAHRA (nap) 4.40 Old Provence 5.10 Ballymac Girl

VESCRED FIRST TIME: Sweet Supposin, Just Flamenco (A.10);

2.10 RICOH (UK) LTD FILLIES' MAIDEN AUC-TION STAKES (CLASS E) £4,400 added

plats, 9-2 Victim of Love, Lady Digit-

251116 SECOND COLOURS (73) (C) (D) (8F) Mas M Reveloy 5 9 5 \_\_\_\_N Variey (3) 6

- 10 declared BETTING: 7-4 Second Colorts, 3-1 December, 9-2 Equilibrium, 8-2 :
Disorder, 10-1 Konsissanto, Develocop, 12-1 Mazzila, 14-1 others

### 4.10 LADBROKE SERIES HANDICAP (QUALI-FIER) (CLASS E) £4,400 added 6f

4.40 STEELWAY FENCESECURE SELLING STAKES (CLASS G) £3,250 added 1m 4f 

- 11 sectored -SETTRIC: 9-4 Old Provence, 9-2 Pistols: At Daws, 7-1 Lilec Rain, Coest Along, 8-1 Stamp Tarill, Just Lucky, Coelanists, 14-1 others

5.10 THORPE VERNON FILLIES HANDICAP (CLASS F) £3,650 added 1m 6f 166yds

-7 deciared -BETTHIG: 5-4 Silver Singer, 9-4 Bellyster Girl, 4-1 Sure Care, 6-1 Cale Gloce, 50-1 Harden, Top On Tootsin, 66-1 Fools of Pricis

12.30 Welsh Mili 1.00 Penny A Day 1.30 Island Chief 2.00 Tallywagger 2.30 Jodanni 3.00 Lord Dorcet 3.30 New Charges GOING: Good (Good to Soft in place

HYPERION

Undetering course. Rup-in of two furlongs.

Course is north of town off B8461. ADMISSION: Chib £10; Tat-lersels £6 (OAPs £3, accompanied under-166 free). CAR PARK: Free.

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DATS: None.
LONG-DISTANCE EUNNERS: Businesseva Bill (1:30) has been sent
384 miles by M C Pipe from Nicholaschayne, Devon. 12.30 JOHN HOGG NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS D) (DIV I) £3,500 added 2m 110yds | Dig | Div | S3,500 added 2m 110yds | 156.14 | Peter Cortoon (51) (87) Mis D Thomson 4 11 2 .1. O'Hank | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.14 | 150.1

1.00 JOHN HOGG NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS D) (DtV II) £3,500 added 2m 110yds 1 (Orv 1) £3,500 added 2m 110yds

1 PERRY A DAY (27) (D) Mis M Rackly 5 11,7 P Nives

1 Charles J Sodie 4 11 0 - F Losby (3)

3 DOWN NEW (219) G Rehards 5 11 0 - B Harding (3)

4 DESET NOOLE (15) P Normath 6 11 0 - B Conill (7)

5 MARAGOT O Noon 4 12 10 inc 4 11 0 - B Store

6 DO.0 SHEWN THOUSET (17) C Parise 4 11 0 - B Store

7 504675 SUPPERS SOMET (28) M Whiten 5 11 0 - M Sacht

8 0470 - THOMAS RAND (289) M Dots 6 11 0 - M Sacht

9 G TELLE SOME (28) M Dots 6 11 0 - M Sacht

10 TOLING STEEM W News 4 11 0 - S McDoughil

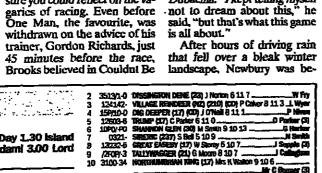
31 DO-5 MOSE CHARPHONE (88) M D THOMAS 5 10 9 - D O'Hara

- 11 declared - 11 d

1.30 (CLASS D) £6,000 added 3m 1f 

2.00 E SCARTH & SON HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS C) £4,750 added 2m 6f 110yds

1 03131F- NORTHWITS (261) W Street 9 12 0 P Carboty



2.30 HINCHLIFFE CHAMPION HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS B) £15,000 added 3m 4f 

- 6 declared -Minimum weight: 10zt. Two Hordicap weights: Over The Deel 8st 6tb, Board-Ing School, Plain 6th 7st 5tb, Smook Point 6st 6tb, Gunmetel Boy 5st 8tb. BETTREE: 1-4 lockers, 6-1 Over The Deel, 14-1 Boarding School, 20-1 Plais 6th, 50-1 Secock Point, 68-1 Gunmetel Boy

3.00 FAMOUS GROUSE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D) £3,500 added 2m 2f 

3.30 OSWALD HUGHES AMATEURS MAIDEN HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 2m 6f 110yds OQ4P ARCEICUALDI (7) Mrs A Seinbern 5 11 10 Mr Chris Wilson (7)

OMMANDEER Mos M Miligan 5.11.10 "Miss P Robean (7)
DROBEN FOX (7) S Robreon 9.11.10 "Mis Serve Robinso 

17 U-0 COSTRUTY (17) A Thorson 8 11.5 Mr K Whelen 6 18 300/62-3 EXNCEAK CYBOND (20) N Chambelan 6 11.5 - 19 declared - BETTRAG: 3-1 Lucintum, 5-1 New Charges, 8-1 Menty Rose, Gym. 10, 10-1 Commander, 12-1 Stooming Spring, 14-1 others

### WOLVERHAMPTON

3.10 DAVIES ROSE LIFFORD HALL CLAUMING STAKES (CLASS F) (DIV II) £3,150 added

- 10 declared -BETTENG: 5-2 Sweet Supposin, 3-1 Queens Stroller, 7-2 Just Rumenco 4-1 Canary Faicon, 8-1 Chadleigh Lune, Ndohn, 12-1 others 3.40 SAIT ABRASIVES NURSERY HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,400 added 270 1m 

**Grain's** 

career in

balance

Pure Grain may never race

again after suffering a a fracture

to her off hind in the Japan Cup

yesterday. The Newmarket-

trained filly finished 10th, a long way behind the winner, Lando.

looked to have every chance

round the turn. But she came

off the bridle and that was it."

Lando, ridden by Michael

Roberts and trained by Heinz

Jentzsch, took a first prize

worth £1.1m. He was the first

German horse to win the Japan

Cup since it began in 1981. The

winner's odds were 13.5 to 1.

ished second, followed by the

French-trained Hernando, A

record crowd of 180,760

watched the race.

OCOD CHARLE-DON'T SURF (6) R Guest 3 8 0 \_\_\_\_\_\_ L Charmock 4 000620 HUNZA STORY (27) N Lutencien 3 7 12 \_\_\_\_\_ C Adamson (5) 3 00 PRETTY SCARCE (17) 8 Presce 4 7 12 \_\_\_\_\_\_ N Adams 8

Japan's Hishi Amazon fin-

trainer, said: "She was trave very well for John Reid and

Michael Stoute, Pure Grain's

Minimum weight: 7st 7to. True hardicap weight: The Kalerina 7st 5tb. BETTENE: 5-4 Domoor, 2-1 Los Alamos, 3-1 Israeja Minimum, 20-1 Tissa Na

Minimum weight: 7s; 7h. Tue handisp weight: Woodlands Electric 6s; 1h. BETTENZ: 9-4. Rigner Boy, 9-2 Sweet Nath, 5-1 Indiatra, Northern Sparis, 6-1 Efficacy, 8-1 Another Balatmorth, 12-1 Bold Street, 16-1 offers

00-0000 NORD LUS (2/2) B Linvelyn 4 9 3 \_\_\_\_\_ F N 06-2065 SHARP THREEL (20) B Smart 4 9 3 \_\_\_\_ R 040351 COAST ALONG (125) (b) D Burchel 3 9 2 \_Dean 11 00-0300 LBLAC RAIN (7) J Amold 3 8 6.....

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### Rodgers talks down his finest moment

here is a ritual to be observed by the protagonists when moving towards the University match, which - for Cambridge - was not served by their 22-14 defeat of Western Samoa. Grange Road has seen 99 years of rugby and, awkwardly, this was one of the iewels in that near-centenary.

So Tony Rodgers, the duffelcoated coach who seems to have been around for every year of the 99, effusively greeted a notable and noble victory and then realised his mistake. Oxford having been trounced 45-17 by the Samoans four days earlier, did this not inevitably install his Light Blues as favourites for Twickenham on 12 December?

Well of course not, Rodgers insisted, since nothing that occurs before the University match counts for anything. He should know: Gerald Davies's star-spangled 1970 side won every pre-Twickenham match but still contrived to lose the one that mattered most. Rodgers was in the Cambridge second row, as he had been a few weeks earlier when they had beaten Fiii.

Déjà vu, as the university's French department might say. We have to keep our feet very firmly on the ground; that's going to be the difficult thing," he pronounced. "Oxford will see that and it will be a red rag to a bull. It's a different game, a one-off, and this goes out the window." Rodgers - rather like his Oxford counterpart Lynn Evans. really - is in the habit of saving such things on an annual basis, since the last thing either university wishes is the burden of favouritism.

Even so, on the direct comparison of Iffley Road against Grange Road he is talking through the Bill-and-Ben hat he sometimes wears. The Dark

#### STEVE BALE

#### COMMENTARY

Blues had a more productive line-out but in every other area the contrast was as vivid as that between the team's shades of blue (even if Oxford were in unwonted blue-and-white hoops).

More important to Cambridge was their voracity for the loose ball, in which respect an exceptional back row utterly outplayed the Samoans. That Russell Earnshaw suffered nothing in comparison with the Antipodean pairing of Marty Hyde and Steve Surridge was a tribute to all three, who aug-mented their attacking ballwinning with a ferocious defensive display.

This intransigence spread through the side and, one might say for the benefit of the affable Rodgers, is precisely what tends to win University matches when you are (or think you are) playing for your life in front of 70.000, which is the Rugby Football Union's projection for the attendance three weeks hence.

On Saturday Cambridge won by keeping their noses in front while Rob Ashforth and Campbell Burnes were engaged in a kicking duel and then coming on strongly when the exchanges suddenly opened up in the final quarter. It was only after Steve Cottrell, the outstanding New Zealander who missed his blue because of injury last year, and Nick Walne had scored their

tries that the islanders cast off to help finance the new protheir torpor for their try by Happy-Valley Patu.

Yes, the felicitous full-back is blessed with this forename and for most of the time Happy Valley was where most of the Samoans appeared mentally to be dwelling. "The importance of the mind in rugby is very well illustrated: we probably thought it was going to be much the same as against Oxford," Bryan Williams, their expenses Williams, their exasperated coach, said. "This seems to be a trait we've got. They are so

If anything, this was a stronger Samoan team than the one who had lost to Oxford, containing as it did eight of those who had drawn with Scotland a week earlier as opposed to the five who had faced the Dark Blues. On the other hand, Rodgers's dismissal of the result in Twickenham terms gains some support from Samoan se-

lection: only three of the Iffley

laid-back, some of them, that

they struggle to produce any sort

Road winners also turned out at Grange Road. In fact they had deliberately kept the choice below strength, bearing in mind that the next four fixtures will take them round the English divisions, and their tour in Scotland sharply exposed the differing calibre of their first- and secondchoice players. The post-World Cup depredations of rugby

Samoans' lack of depth.

But let us give them credit for resisting fearsome odds. Having been gratuitously abandoned by the big rugby unions of the southern hemisphere, they - or more specifically Williams, one of the all-time great All Black wings - have attracted a backer, the Auckland merchant-banker Michael Fay of yachting fame.

league have exacerbated the

fessionalism. And planning for Pan-Pacific tournament involving the Pacific islands. Canada, the United States, Argentina, Japan and Hong Kong is at an advanced stage.

There are new imperatives for which the Samoans, not blessed either administratively or economically, are ill suited. As it happens, there is a vaguely similar struggle going on at Cambridge and Oxford, who find themselves to be the last redoubts of amateurism and effectively squeezed out of meaningful club fixtures by ague rugby.

Hence the inauguration in

January of a European universities' tournament including Cambridge, Trinity College Dublin, Paris and Rome ("Oxford declined the invitation," Rodgers said sniffily) with plans to double and even treble its size in succeeding years. The Blues have in effect been

abandoned by the clubs (Harlequins, for example, gave Cambridge 24 hours' notice of their withdrawal from this month's game), just as Western Samoa have been abandoned by South Africa, Australia and above all New Zealand. Nice of England to have them at Twickenham, four days after Oxbridge.



Falling at his feet Jonah Lomu, guesting for Wrexham yesterday, looks down at the familiar sight of a falled tackle as Llyr Jones tries to stop him during Wrexham's 52-21.

#### Cardiff brought back to reality

ROB COLE

Cardiff Newport

In the same week that they rose to the heights of drawing with the leading team in France, Cardiff plumbed the depths as they fell to their first home Heineken League defeat.

To make matters worse they also lost the services of their midfield magician Mark Ring for tomorrow's European Cup tie against Ulster. Ring strained the lateral ligaments in his left ankle late in the second half and will be in plaster

for 10 days.

It could have been a lot worse, though, as Ring's first thought was that he had broken the joint. He also had to survive a harrowing ordeal in the medical room when the table the stretcher bearers placed him on collapsed underneath him. "At first I thought I had broken my ankle and then I almost broke my back," he said.

It was Newport's second sucessive win at the Arms Park and the boot of Gareth Rees proved decisive as he landed five out of six penalties and added a touchline conversion of Owain Thomas's secondminute try.

The only good thing for Cardiff was that their nearest rivals at the top of the First Division, Pontypridd, also slipped to defeat at Treorchy. A last-minute drop goal from the home outside-half. Wayne Booth, earned the Rhondda Zebras an 11-9 success, and their first win of the season.

That game contained two sendings-off and left a bitter taste with Pontypridd. The dis-missals of the lock Mark Rowley and the prop James Alvis will mean the Sardis Road club will have to appeal if they want either man to play against Le-inster in their European Cup decider on 6 December.

Under the new disciplinary system in operation, whereby a dismissed player can continue playing until his hearing, appeals could mean the cases not being heard until 12 December.

"We will have a look at the video first, but we will almost certainly appeal, as we feel we have been hard done by," the Pontypridd team manager, Eddie Jones, said.

The Pontypridd coach, Dennis John, was similarly incensed. "I can't for the life of me see how we were the only ones to finish with 13 men when we didn't start the incidents. I believe Treorchy deliberately set out to provoke us and they should have had players sent off as well."

Rees 5.

Cardiff: C John; S Hiff, S John, M Half (capt). N Wather, M Ring (M Rayer 69), A Booth; A Lews, P Young, M Griffiths, J Wolseford, K Stewart, O Wildlams, E Lews, C Mills.

Newport: S Davies: R Rees, D Hughes, D Edwards, O Thomas (A Palfrey 65); G Rees, J Hewlett; S Duggan, A Peacock, S Cronk, N Jones, K Moseley, M Workman (M Voyle 56). R Gootley (capt, C Brown 69), D Gray IC Brown 63-64).

#### Wainwright denies talks with Packer

BILL LEITH

Edinburgh Academicals Watsonians

Rob Wainwright has dismissed as "rumour-mongering" a report that Scotland's top players have met a representative of the Kerry Packer organisation keen to "sell" them plans for a world wide club competition.

The secret get-together supposedly took place in the wake of Scotland's 15-15 draw with Western Samoa when the talk, allegedly, was of contracts around three times what is being offered by the Scottish

If anybody should know it is Scotland's captain, but at least any such project might spare him the decision of which club to join when he returns home. Wainwright is keeping his cards close to his chest, but if the Army physician opts against rejoining Edinburgh Academicals he will have to draw on his best bedside manner. A defeat by Watsonians con-

signed them to relegation for the first time in history, their coach. David Sole, will learn this week whether he faces a disrepute charge for publicly criticising a referee, and on-field disciplinary problems are mounting. An as yet unnamed forward is at the centre of a complaint by Melrose that he was responsible for allegedly jeopardising the sight of their prop Mark Ross, with a punch which went unseen by

the referee.
Against Watsonians, the match official had no doubt that the hooker, Kenny Day, was stamping when Edinburgh led 15-3 just before half-time, and sent him off.
Rob Wainwright has also

been linked with Watsonians. whose win improved their prospects of playing in Europe next season should Scotland enter club sides as opposed to districts. Watsonians remain capable of finishing second behind Melrose, whose 15-15 draw at Stirling requires them to win at home to Gala on Saturday to take a fifth title in seven years. Edinburgh Academicals: Tries Burns 2; Goo-version Duncan; Penalty Duncan, Watsonians: Tries Stansway, Garn, G Hastings; Conventions G Hastings 2; Penalties G Hastings 3. Edinburgh Academicats: S Burns: C Newton, C Murray, M Duncan, G McKinlay; S Dow, P Simpson; J Fayers, K Day, D Graham, S Mur-ray, M McVie, D McNor (capt), M Watte, R Hoole. Watsomians: G Hastings: F Henderson (capt), S Heorings, A Garry, J Kerr, D Hodge IS Carse. 622, J Weston: M Staraway, S Farland, A Wit-tle, C Mather, S Gnmes, G Hannah. C Brown.

Referee: I Ramage (Berwick). Saracens have signed the Ireland flanker Eddie Halvey from the Limerick club Shannon. Halvey will be eligible for the final four English Courage League First Division fixtures of the season.

### Andrew sails through unruffled introduction



Model pro: Andrew points Newcastle's way forward

It is safe to assume there will be tougher days ahead for Rob Andrew in his Newcastle career than Saturday's 51-5 win over Harrogate. Not every match can be like his debut, which would have resembled an encounter with his fan club had it been slightly more strenuous.

He was gently mobbed from time to time but mostly the opposition simply stood back and watched him perform. Considtheir obvious admiration it was a bit surprising that Harrogate resisted the temptation to applaud.

Apart from being allowed to control the destination of the ball much as he pleased, Andrew gathered 21 points which included two penalties, a drop goal and the conversion of all his side's six tries. Two of the latter kicks were beauties, from wide on left and right respectively.

These were moments when the quality of the opposition mattered not and Andrew's preparation and execution doubt. Popplewell flew home cut man, whom it is still diffi-were, as ever, immaculate. They yesterday, will report for duty cult to believe has been charged preparation and execution

Newcastle's figurehead made a big impact when he made his long-delayed debut for them, says Stephen Brenkley with heading a rugby revolution, "we will be in Europe in 1998.

are attributes to make it easy to in his stockbroking office today suspect that Newcastle have got the right man to lead them to their golden future.

Harrogate's role was hardly expected to be that of anything more than innocent bystanders. As their taxi-driving prop Al Brown put it: "We didn't come ud here to 10m in the Kod An-Unfortunately it never looked like working out." The point was that Brown knew that it was indeed the Rob Andrew Show.

A bit further down the bill but still with star status was the Lions prop, Nick Popplewell. He intends to commute from his home in Dublin to play for Newcastle but from the buffeting he gave Brown ("I can tell my grandchildren about it." the Harrogate player said) his commitment to the cause is not in and tomorrow morning and then fly back for the game against Transvaal tomorrrow evening. He and Andrew, bound by

the Rugby Football Union's 120-day rule for league matches until early next year, will play in all the friendly fixtures they other former Wasps player Dean Ryan, who could not play on Saturday because of injury, are anxious that they will at least be on passing terms with their less venerated colleagues before the fight against Second Division relegation resumes.

It was that, not Harrogate that was exercising Andrew's mind after Saturday's friendly proceedings. That and somewhat broader horizons. "In a perfect world," said the clean

**CIS Insurance** 

**Divisional Chan** 

Midlands Pool One

Retention of their present status may not be straightfor-There are some neatly moving backs who can help them do

That's as quick as we can do it."

it and the captain Ross Wilkinson, whose second try on Satdrew Show, we came to ruin it. can. They, not to mention the urday involved a run of 70 yards, has a searing turn of pace. But it may rely more than somewhat on Andrew persuading opponents to freeze in wonderment.

WONDERMED II.
Newcaette: Tries Wilkinson 2. Childs, Poppiewell, Wilson, Mullarkey: Convensions Andraw 6: Penatities Andrew 2: Drop goal
Andrew. Harrogete: Try Catiwet.
Newcastler: I McLelland; M Witson, R Wilkinson (P Cherry, 63 ): N Poppiewell (B Aldington,
59), A Herherington, P Van-Zandvilet, F
Matchel, R Metcatle RN Mullarkey, 60 (N Firankland, S Cassidy, G Holder.
Harrogete: I Hassasi, S Hockey, M Brain, A
Caldwell, A Taylor, R Zong (D Clappison, 70),
M Wood; J Field, R Whyley, A Brown, P Taylor, M Ruthen, A Pnde, D Wheat, J Hopkinson (R Nolan, 74).
Referee: P Dickers (East Mickins).

RUGBY UNION RESULTS AND TABLES

#### Greening's brilliance heals the Divisionals is only 20, does everything he is the opposition midfield - no DAVID LLEWELLYN

be included.

**PAUL STEPHENS** 

Opinion on the Divisional Championship's worth to English rugby has been, well, divided. But after Saturday's stirring match in the mud of Kingsholm there are a number of reasons why it deserves to be taken off death row. The England A team to face Western Samoa on 12 December at Gateshead is named this morning and at least two, if not more, of the youngsters on show will

Phil Greening is a certainty af-

If the first principle of leadership

is example then Brian Moore

failed on one count though

scored notably on several others

as London slipped to their sec-

ond successive defeat in this dis-

Championship match at College

Grove, Wakefield on Saturday.

be dismissed by Tony Spread-

bury, either after a second-half

stamping incident or for an ap-

Moore was fortunate not to

appointing CIS Divisional

supposed to do at the set pieces but has another dimension to his game, that of a fourth flanker. He runs lines like a seasoned back-row man, tackles terminally and has hands that reveal his early days as a centre.

Jack Rowell, the England manager, described the unemployed carpenter as "very promising" - praise indeed from someone who is not known for excesses. Rowell, and the rest of the England A management team'went into a huddle after the match and it is likely that the name of the South-West's outside-half Alex King, a second-year student at Bristol University, will have

parent head-butt, both of which could have warranted Eng-

land's most-capped forward

facing a disciplinary tribunal this

week instead of leading London

out against West Samoa at

Afterwards, Moore was ro-

bustly unrepentant. "This sort of

situation provides referees with

a conundrum. Do they penalise

the player killing the ball, or the

guy trying to ruck him out of the

way?" Moore asked. It was a

question never answered in a

contest where fair release and

maul were features of a game

which began so promisingly.

Twickenham on Wednesday.

ter a particularly good game. He could well become England's King did everything right. King did everything right. youngest post-war hooker. He not least of which was keeping

slouches themselves --- guessing at his every move until the last minute. King's potential was underlined by the news that Richard Hill, Gloucester's director of coaching (and incidentally the England A coach) invited the Rosslyn Park 20-yearold to join the Kingsholm ranks. King is thinking over the offer.

Greening and King may well he joined at Gateshead by the Midlands full-back James Quantrill, who revealed pace and perception when coming into the line but also proved sound in defence and an able goalkicker. Northampton's loose-head prop Matt Volland also looked versatile and mobile, while his club colleague. Budge Pountney did his claims

served winners by two tries to nil.

"We passed up a couple of good

chances and gave away too much ball," Moore said. "That wasn't

good enough today, nor will it be

on Wednesday when some of us

still bope of reclaiming his place when England meet the tourists

on 16 December. More to the

point is where Jack Rowell will

make changes after the perfor-

Andy Gomarsall - who out-

Healey - must come into the

If it is at scrum-half then

mance against South Africa.

Clearly Moore feels there is

have a point to prove."

well have foundered in the atrocious conditions, produced several bright performances. "If the Divisionals pick young players," Rowell said, "always accepting that there needs to be a spine [of experience], it is a wonderful shop window." South-West: Try Fenicy, Penalty King, Drog goal King, Midlands: Tries Pouriney, Skingsley, Penalties Quantril 2.

Penaitties Quantria 2.

SOUTH-WEST: P Half (Bristol, copt); P Halford (Gloucester), S Enoch (Porsypridd), M Denney (Bristol), J Stelejstholiere (Bath); A Ring (Rossily Park), B Fendey (Gloucester) K Yathes (Bath), P Greening (Gloucester) K Yathes (Bristol), P Graner (Bristol), C Yandell (Saracers), P Glanvillas (Gloucester), D Pearson, E Railitt (Bristol), Replacement: P Fider (Gloucester), MINI ANDES (Bristol), Replacement: P Fider (Gloucester), MINI ANDES (Bristol), Replacement: P Fider (Gloucester), Bristolia (Bristol), Replacement: P Fider (Gloucester), Bristolia (Bristol), Replacement: P School (Bristolia), P School (Bristoli MEDIANDS: J Quantral Rugby Lions; R Sub-blani (Bedford). A Narr Orlogery, B Wholstone (Bedford). A Thomesycroft (Northampton); P Grayson (Northampton, capt). J Fastr (Man-nragton Park); M Volkand, T Beddow (Northampton), N Webber (Mozeley), D Gree-cock (Coverby), R West (Gloucoster), I Sk-lagelsy (Bedford). B Pountney (Northampton), G Saake (Morthampton).

set up the long-range try for

result, must be next in line.

Moore no merrier as London lose their way

drew's rumoured recall) Tim Stimpson, whose blistering pace MIGGIESEX ...... (at Old Merchant Greenwood which settled the

South Pool One

INDER-2. COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP North-em Group: Lancashire 39 Cumbria 10 (at Cit Advirsars): Durhem 16 Northumberiand 21 (at Houghton RC): South West Pool One: Dorset/Wits 18 Berishire 17 (at Westbury). Pool Two: Glouestershire 48 Devon 5 (at Luffact): Streeged 26 Comment 2 (at Westbury).

restult, must de next in line.

North: Tries Malinder. W Greenwood. Conversion Liey. Pensities Liey 2. London:
Pensities Gregory 3.

NORTH: Y Statapace (West Hartispool): J Neytor (Dreil). W Greenwood (Harlsports). P Johnson (Orrel). Capt). J Malinder: R Liley (both
Sale). A Mealey; P Winstamley (Noth Orrel). S

Diagnond (Sole), M Shelley (West Hartispool),
J Fowler (Sale), M Greenwood (West), R

Amold (Newcaste). N Asburst, C Vyryan (both
Sale). Replacements: G Baidwin (Wakefield)
for Winstanley. 2: P Stavant (Wakefield) for

Vyryan, 48. LORDON: A Turningley (Surcers): M Griffiths, N Greenstock (both Wasps), P Menesub Higheaums), S Robser; G Gregory, A Gomersall (all Wesps): S Brown (Hadequars), B Moore (Harlequars, Capt), I Duriston (Wasps), A Snow, M Watson (both Heriequars), M White (Wesps), R Jenkins (Harlequars), A Diproso (Soracers). your man ununestersine 46 Devon 5 (at Lydney); Somerset 26 Comwall 3 (at Welling-ton). South East Pool One: Hampshire 24 Eastern Counties 10 (At Havant); Middlesex 49 Kent 22 (at Old Merchant Taylors). Pool Two: Army 3 Sumby 49 (at Atterator); Sus-sax 16 Hartlordshire 9 (at Chichester).

Heineken Welsh League First Division

Irish Inter-Provincial

Second Division

Path Division Abertan 20 Tommar 11: L'andré Harlogums 10 Oakdale 14: Febratol: Candré Harlogums 10 Oakdale 14: Febratol: Candré Harlogums 10 Oakdale 14: Febratol: Sevan Sa-tors 31 Abergavenny 0; Ystrod Rhondda 28 Pontyberem 19. Tennents Scottish Championship First Division

Second Division

W Pk Bre

slow delivery from ruck and shone the North's Austin

hich began so promisingly.

It ended with the North desuming Mike Catt is not re-

هري امن الرجل

### Between a rock and an upside-down place

Mike Rowbottom sees human flies go up the wall at the National Indoor Arena, Birmingham

There was one easy element for the climbers who scaled im-plausible heights here yesterday in the 1995 Snow and Rock

World Cup.
Yes, they had to get themselves up a structure which resembled a nightmare trompel'oeil - upside-down steps which defied the very idea of ascent. And, yes, they had to pause reg-ularly to shake their arms and legs back to life. But they were able to do so to the emollient, atmospheric strains of Enya. Some consolation.

A crowd of around 4,000 gathered at one end of the arena as if watching a snooker championship, with a hush of concentration, broken periodically as the spectators, many of them climbers themselves, showed their appreciation of a particularly hold or brave manoeuvre on the part of the human fly before them.

The wall, 18 tonnes of lunar landscape resin, loomed back and over each climber as they stepped forward to address it It entailed a long approach climb of around 12 metres, six metres of horizontal roof and a final pull round a lip to finish with a 30-degree overhanging

Once they began their ginger progress, stopping regularly to grab handfuls of gymnasts' chalk from the bags which dangle from their belts, the competitors had quarter of an hour to complete their work. The handholds - some large, some tiny - were bolted along a route decided by an official from the Swiss-based international alpine climbing body, the UIAA.

And, excruciatingly, the competitors had just six minutes to study their latest challenge before climbing. They stood like tourists on the spotlit stage, viewing the routes with binoc-



Sheer hell: Matt Donnelly takes a firm grip during the British Junior Open in the Climbing World Cup at the National Indoor Arena yesterday

30 feet above their heads, before being shooed off the stage. It is this constant variation, allied to the mind-defying task of operating in an upside-down world, that moved one profes-

sional sports psychologist, David Gilbourne, to declare: "This sport was developed by to-

seen from a competitors' psychological perspective."

Ian Vickers, the 21-year-old British champion, clearly has a psyche that is as fit as his body. A minute after dropping from the wall face on his rope, having been unable to work out a route along the wicked, pockulars, reaching out their arms to tal sadists. It is one of the worst marked ceiling that forms the

lolled against a wall and slid ing hookey. Supported partly by back into his trainers. his parents, with whom he still

Despite strenuous physical efforts that had raised the audience to murmurs of approval and bursts of support, he looked no more tired than if he had lost a chess match. Pale and bespectacled, with

tousled fair hair, Vickers faintperform imaginary manoeuvres sports in the world that I have central section of the climb, he by resembles a schoolboy play-

earned the winner François Petit, of France, £3,000. Not towlives in Darwen, Lancashire, and ering money, but more than sponsorship by equipment comanyone can earn on real rock faces, where competition is now panies Petzl and Beal, he ... does his own thing. "I have a car and I drive around," he said. "I just banned on environmental grounds. The women's title went kind of like to go climbing a lot." to the American world cham-Vickers finished seventh in a pion, Robyn Erbesfield, who at men's final - the third of four in 5ft 1in is considerably shorter

the overall competition - which than most of her rivals, but

Photograph: Robert Hallam

whose thin arms and legs clearly have a tenacity of almost superhuman proportion.

Since the National Indoor Arena first put on an event of this kind four years ago, a new commercial climbing centre has opened in the city and there are plans for 47 such centres to open around the country in the next year. Enya must be delighted.

### **Collins** ready to unify title

#### Boxing

Nigel Benn acknowledged Steve Collins' achievements this year in the ring after watching him retain his World Boxing Organisation super-middleweight title on Saturday night, but he underlined his confidence in the outcome of a uni-

fication fight with the Irishman by conceding home advantage. The World Boxing Council champion was a model of discretion after watching Collins follow up two victories over Chris Eubank by defying the challenge of Cornelius Carr and taking a unanimous points decision in Dublin.

Benn was sure he would prevail in a toe-to-toe battle against Collins, whatever the venue. His promoter, Frank Warren, believes that fight will take place providing Benn overcomes the South African Thulane Malinga in a mandatory defence earin the new year.

Benn said: "Steve has done his bit. Now I have to keep my side of the bargain with a suc-cessful defence. I have the utmost respect for him."
Collins, who plans one more

fight before facing Benn, pos-sibly in April or May, bulldozed his way to a unanimous decision over Middlesbrough's Carr although many at ringside thought he was flattered by two judges declaring him the winner by a margin of four rounds and the third by six.

The 31-year-old champion dominated the early rounds, but Carr countered neatly in the middle rounds and still stood his ground when Collins stepped up his work-rate at the final stages.

Carr, a former British champion, said: "It was a big step up in class for me and I proved I could handle it. Steve may have just nicked the verdict, but I know now I can get to the top."

### Eight die in Nagpur

Cricket

Eight spectators died and another 50 were injured during the one-day international between India and New Zealand in Nagpur yesterday.

A section of the back wall on the second level of the recently completed eastern stand at the Vidarbha Cricket Associa- if we had suspended play". tators were making their way Three fans were killed and a further five died in hospital.

Witnesses said a three-metre mortar wall appeared to give won by New Zealand by 99 runs. runs in 13 balls.

way in the crush of people trying to leave the top level of the stand, which seats up to 3,000.

Some of the victims fell over the edge as the wall collapsed, plunging some 15 metres to the ground, while others were hit by falling debris. A spokesman said it had been decided to continue with the game because "there would have been a riot

The sta

#### Munton in the mood

England A 298-6 dec and 10-2 Patron's XI 187-9 dec

Only 48 hours after arriving to act as cover for the injurytroubled Mike Smith, Tim Munton took 5 for 54 for England A in Lahore yesterday in his first bowl for three months A see-saw second day ended

World Cup match between Aus- for 2 in their second innings, a out during the lunch interval. tralia and Zimbabwe in March. lead of 121 against a Patron's Match referee Peter Burge XI who rallied spiritedly to 187 fined New Zealand's Roger for 9 declared after Munton Twose half his match fee for abu- had reduced them to 48 for 6 wide section of the brick and sive language during the game, with four wickets for three

### ENGLAND A — First leadings 298 for 6 dec (N V Knight 107, J C Pooley 100no). PATRON'S 10 — First leadings Shaked Ahmed Vin out

#### Spain retain Fed Cup Tennis

Spain won the Fed Cup for the third year running when they defeated the United States in the final in Valencia yesterday. Conchita Martinez's victory over Mary Joe Fernandez in straight sets secured an unassailable 3-0 lead in the best-offive final.

hour 18 minutes, but Fernandez had chances to take command Extras

Total (for 2, 3 overs)

Total (for 2, 3 overs)

To but in V Kinger, "N Hussain, I C Pooky, C White, T A Munion, R D Stemp, A M Smith, Bowfler, Shadid Naze 2-0-9-2; Amer Mahymood 1-0-1-0.

Saturday's singles as Martinez, the world No 2 defeated Chanda Rubin 7-5, 7-6, and world No 3, Arantxa Sanchez Vicario, defeated Fernandez 6-3, 6-2. Spain have now won the Fed

Spain took a 2-0 lead after

Cup four times and have been in the final six times in seven years. The Americans have not won since 1990, although they

hold the record of 14 victories. In the "dead" rubbers, Rubin. a replacement for the injured Monica Seles, defeated Sanchez Vicario 1-6, 6-4, 6-4. In the doubles, Americans Gigi Fernandez and Lindsay Davenport beat Virginia Ruano-Pascual and

Heiner, of the Netherlands, 4-1 in the

Switzerland's Michael Von Gruenigen overcame warm temperatures and de-terlorating race conditions in Park City,

#### **Farrell flows for Wigan**

Rugby League

The holders Wigan, with their international duo of Andy Farrell and Gary Connolly in good form, overcame First Division Huddersfield 32-0 yesterday to earn a place in today's Regal Trophy quarter-final draw.
The loose forward Farrell,

who put off a groin operation Connolly ran two tries.

The Western Samoan Apollo Perelini spared St Helens' blushes with a late try after First Division Hull threatened to cause a major upset, his second touchdown clinching a 38-26 victory.

The centre Andy Currier scored two tries as Warrington staved off a brave fightback to win 35-22 at Batley. Meanwhile the full-back Stuart Spruce scored two tries as Widnes produced a slick performance to win 32-8 at Workington, Rochdale came from behind to win 26-14

Also through are Second Division Carlisle and the First Division teams Rochdale and

In the only First Division match, Featherstone's standoff Martin Pearson scored 40 points with four tries and 10 goals as his team beat Whitehaven 60-10.

mi (4-11); Kotoirazuma (6-9) bi Neminohana (6-9); Mitozumi (8-7) bi Kotomahiki (8-7); Kao (8-7) bi Takanonami (9-6); Musoyama (7-8) bi Wakamphana (12-3); Museshimanu (10-5)

RENCH OPEN (Lyon) Near's singles second round: D Mazunov (Fus) bt A Cooke (Eng.) 11-21-21-12-1-13 21-19. Women's singles second round: A holt (Eng.) bt Xu Jng (Ta) 21-12 12-21 21-15 21-13. Third round: Li Ju (Ch) bt Holt 21-11 21-16 21-12.

ATP WORLD DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP (Eindhoven, Noto): Sessi-finals: G Cornel (Can) and P Galbreith (US) bt T Woodbridge and M Woodbride (Aus) 7-6 6-3; J Etingh and

P Haarhuis (Neth) bt C Suk and D Vacek (Cz Rep) 6-3 5-2. Final: Connell and Gallgrath bt Elungh and Haarnuis 7-6 7-6 3-6 7-6.

FED CUP FINAL (Valencia) Singles: C Mer-tres: (Sp) bt C Rubin (US) 7-57-5; A Sanchez Vicario (Sp) bt M J Fernandez (US) 6-3 6-2. Martinez bt Fernandez 6-3 6-4; Rubin bt Sanctez Vicano 1-6 6-4 6-4; Fernandez and L Devenport (US) bt V Rusino-Psscul and M Sanchez Lorenzo (Sp) 6-3 7-6. Spain win 3-2.

Weightlifting
WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS (Guangzhoe,
Chinels teem's 108igs Sanstein: 1 Cu Wenhus (Ch) 192.5ig; 2 i Rezarenov (Uk) 190.0;
3 M Gogis (Geo) 182.5. Clean and Jerk: 1
Rezarenov 227.5; 2 5 Fietho (Rus) 222.5;
3 G Schislalo (Bels) 220.0. Total: 1 Rezarenov 417.5; 2 Cu 407.5; 3 Fietho (Ros) 222.5;
3 G Schislalo (Bels) 220.0. Total: 1 Rezarenov 417.5; 2 Cu 407.5; 3 Fietho (405.0. Ower
108ig: Smatch: 1 R Weiler (Ger) 197.5 kg;
2 A Chemerian (Rus) 197.5; 3 S Boter (Aus)
190.0. Clean and Jerk: 1 Boter 245.0; 2
Chemerian 245.0; 3 Weiler 240.0; 3 Boter
435.0; 4 M Nerlinger (Ger) 427.5; 5 A
Krouchevitch (Bels) 412.5; 8 Firm Tee-Hyun
(S Korl 410.0; 7 P Satisticks (Gr) 410.0; 8
R Dorochouk (Bels) 402.5; 9 T Stark (Hung)
402.5; 10 N Durametayan (Igh) 400.0.
Women's 83ig: Sanstein: 1 Wen Ni (Ch)
107.5; 2 B Muss (Nigstei) 107.5; 3 K Lundahl (Fin) 102.5. Clean and Jerk: 1 Chen
Hsiao-len (Ra) 132.5; 2 E Takacs (Hung)
130.0; 3 Lundahl 125.0. Total: 1 Teleas
232.5; 2 Chen 230.0; 3 Lundahl 227.5; 5
M Auger (GB) 212.5.

Weightlifting

Table tennis

Daniel Shungsa, of Kenya, won his third consecutive Bangkok Marathon yesterday in a time of 2hr 28min 35sec.

Scotthish OPEN (Kelvin Hall, Glasgow): Mem's singles, semi-finals: J Largesen (Der) for A Netsen (Eng. 15-11.15-11; P Knowles (Eng. 15-11.15-11; P Knowles (Eng. 15-11.15-11.15-17; P Knowles (Eng. 15-11.15-17; Dombles semi-finals: J Larsen and S Osterberg (Swe) for N Confit and J Quarn (Eng. 15-7. Dombles semi-finals: J Larsen and S Osterberg (Swe) for N Confit and J Quarn (Eng. 15-7. 20-15.15-11; N Ponting and Robertson (Eng. 15-11.15) in Largesen and T Stampsard (Den. 15-9. 18-14, Finals Porting and Robertson by Larsen and Osterberg 15-5.15-6. Women's singles, semi-finals: C Bengsson (Swe) to A Glason (Soc) 11-7. 11-5; D Piche (Carl bt M Andiewskaya (Swe) 2-11.11-3.11-8. Finals Bengsson and M Pengsson (Swe) to A Bengsson and S Hardeley (Eng. 15-8.15-4; C Bengsson and M Bengsson (Swe) to N Beck and J Dawes (Eng. 12-15.15-10.15-5. Finals: C Bengsson and M Bengsson by Chaffin and Hardeley 15-7. 15-5. Missed doubles ason-Finals: J Robertson and L Cole (Eng. 1f. K Middlemes and E Allen (Soc) 15-8. 15-9; L Pedersen and A-M Elle (Den.) by J Robertson and L Pedersen and A-M Elle (Den.) by J Robertson and L Cole (Eng. 17-14.15-10.

#### Basketball-

والنقالة والناجو

Service Services

Rasketball

NBA: (Fitday) Cheriotte 116 Vancouver 104;
Detroit 101 Fhiladelphia 78; Cleveland 100
Indians 93; Washington 110 Mismi 94; Golden State 101 Boston 94; Grisndo 109 Minnesons 98; Chusago 90 Urah 85; Denver 112
Deltas 108 (o/t): Portland 99 New Jersey 87;
Sestile 112 San Antonio 100: Sacramento
99 IA Lakers 98, (Sattanday) New York 103
Houston 98; Atlanta 114 Toronto 102; Cleveland 89 Mineson 98; Atlanta 114 Toronto 102; Cleveland 89 Mineson 81; Golden State 107 Philadelphia 89;
Ottando 114 Washington 112: Derwer 94 Uzah
91; Priorrix 114 IA Lakers 113; San Antonio 100 IA Cirppers 91.

BUDMESER LEAGUE: Newcastie 87 Chester 76; Hernel 71 Worthing 84; Dertry 96 Manchester 91.
Themes Valley Tiders, who had won the

chester 91.
Themes Valley Tigers, who had won the title for the past three seasons, were put out of the 7UP Trophy last night with an 85-66 defeat at Wembley Court by London Towers, who reached the last four 174-148 on aggregate. Tigers nev-er recovered from trailing 55-36 at helfer recovered from trailing 55-36 at heli-time after their American, Tony Holley, fell heavily on the tip-off for the third quarter injuring his back and playing no further part in the game. 7LP TROPHY Quarter-finel, first leg: Chester 89 Birmington 105. Section leg: London Towers 85 Trames Valley 65 (London win on aggregate 174-148).

### Bobsleigh

POURMAN WORLD CUP (Elebassmer, Nor): 1 Germany I (W Hoppe, I) Heischer, R Harneman, S Peter 1 min 44.37sec; 2 Germany II (D Wiese, C Barrisch, M Lielkmeier, W Hausb: 1:44.38; 3 Carada I (P Luedes, D MacEachem, J Pyc, I Danney) 1:44.44.

#### Boxing PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMON (The Point, Dublin): 1.2-rd World Boxing Organisation super-middleweight champlottship: S. Colins (Dublin, holder) or C. Carr (Middlesbrough) pis. 4-rd weitneweight: E. Meger (Beltisst) bt. P. Roberts (Hull) nof 4th. 4-rd middlesweight: D. Ruen (Donegal) bt M. Dawson (Burton) pis.

4-rd super-middleweight: P Colurs (Dublin) bt M O'Bnen (Lecks) pts. 8-rd artisteweight: T Dunstam (London) bt J Balis (US) ref 7th. 4-rd featherweight: P Griffin (Dublin) bt M Hermon (Burningham) pts. 8-rd weiterweight: M Caruth (Dublin) bt P Denton (Sheffield) pts. 6-rd light-weiterweight: M Winters (Belfield) bt Jon O'Johnson (Nottlingham) ref 2nd.

nam is 200.

Billy Schwer failed in his attempt to re-tain the Commonwealth lightweight championship when the referee stopped his fight against Ghana's David Tetthe ns night against criefal's Devid letter in Dagerham in the 12th round. The Luton fighter hopes that the European Bowing Urion will allow his scheduled European title challenge against the Frenchman Angel Monato go ahead an important bout on the road back to the status of world champion contender

the status of world champion contender that he enjoyed at the start of the year. PROFESSIONAL PROMOTION (Dagenham): 12-vd Commonwealth lightweight championship: D Tetteh (Sharel tot 8 Schwer (rolder, Luson) of 12th. 6-rd super-bentassweight. M Brodie (Manchester) by K Maudling (Northampton) is 1st. 6-rd super-basissmeight in 1st. 6-rd super-basismmeright: M Aldis (Crawley) by C McMulton (Ir) ko 4th. 4-rd super-featherweight: M Wright (Crasham) by M C Callagham (Turchtage Weis) pis. 4-rd light-middleweight: R Roberts (West Ham) by E Lovenday (Stouthodge) pis. 6-rd bandamweight: S Olver (Bernst) by S Anderson (Sco) ist 3rd.

Criciost
ONE-DAY INTERNATIONAL (Nagpur, Ind):
New Zaaland 348 for 8, 50 overs (N Asie 114,
M Crowe 53, S Herming 60): India 249 all out,
39 3 overs (S Tendulier 65, A Jadiga 61). New
Zaeland won by 99 roses.
TOUR MATCHES (Mackov, Aus; Thrul day of
four): 51 lunks 178 and 106; Queensland
305 and 255, Queensland won by 273 rms.
(Mailtourner; thind day of four): Palastan 154
and 279 (husman-ul-Haq 132); Victoria 362
(D Jones 127) and 72 for 2. Victoria won
by elight wickets.
WOMEN'S SECOND TEST (Jassebedpuir, Ind;
thind day of four): England 196 (S Dabir
4-36) and 94 for 4; India 263 (S Dabir 60,
S STAW 54).
SHESTHELD SHELD (Thing day of four): No-

S Shaw 54).

Shier Field Shield (Third day of four): Ne-bort: New South Wales 368 for 9 dec and 270 for 5 dec; Tasmania 263 and 19 for 0. Adelaidec Western Australia 309 and 345 for 8; South Australia 353 for 9 dec. 8: South Australia 353 for 9 oac.
CASTLE CUP (Third day of four): Durbanc
Eastern Province 71 and 173 for 5 (K Wessels 77; Natas 449 for 5 dec (A hudson 153,
R Steyn 108, 0 Crouces 64. Peart: Boland
159 and 361. (A Kulper 155, 1 Ferrera 50;
S.lack 5-89); Transacest 310 and 1 for 3. East
London: Northern Transacest 183 and 118 (F
Corps 4-16); Dorder 427 (P Botha 71, S Tiko164, P (Kristen 63). Bonder wore by an Innings and 128 rents.

### Eggestrianism

VOLVO WORLD CLIP QUALIFIER (Bertin):
1. Everest Midnight Madness (M. Whitales, GB) clear 34.7 Bace; 2 San Patrignano Welhalvej (F. Stoothyak, Ger) clear 36.36; 3 Weiner Wirtel (C-O Nagel, Ger) clear 36.4.1 GB: 8 Everest Weinern (J. Whitaler) 4 Taufts 34.55. Football

#### The Trilid Division's second-placed club, Gillingham, will be without the midfielder Mark O'Connor for at least three months, after he was carried off with a broken leg in the 1-0 victory over

CHURCH AND GENERAL NATIONAL Pirst Di-vision: Donegal O-6 Nerry 1-11; Kildere O-10 Care O-10: Nearl 2-7 Tyron O-9; De-ry 2-7 Lacis O-9. Second Division: Westmeath O-7 Dublin O-13; Armagn 0-11 Cavan 2-9; Leimm 0-13 Down 1-4; Cork 2-12 Louth 1-7. Golf

Gaelic football

CASSIO WORLD OPEN (Bussid, Japan) Landing fixed scores (Japanese unless stated): 274 S Okuda 69 72 69 64, 275 M Ozak 70 274 S Okuda 69 72 69 64, 275 M Ozaki 70 69 68 58, 276 K Tornon 69 70 71 66, 277 H Mechais 65 71 70 70, 279 C Rocca (U) 70 70 69 70, 280 N Yuhara 72 69 71 68; K Mala 65 68 76 71, 281 R Garnez (US) 72 74 70 65, 282 M Brooks (US) 72 71 72 67; M Limenez (S)0 73 71 70 68; Y Mazumaki 76 72 65 68; B Watas (US) 69 73 70 70; D Ishi (US) 72 71 66 73, 283 H Kase 72 75 70 66; T Suzuki 76 70 69 68; H Barniton (US) 70 73 69; P Wakton (U) 70 72 72 69; V Singh (S)0 70 71 71 71; T1; L Jarzen (US) 70 73 67; C Franco (Par) 70 70 70 70 73. Greg Norman ended a five-year drought in his native constity by warming the Austin his native constity by warming the Austin

in his native country by writing the Australian Open in Melbourne by two shots yesserday. The world No 1 had four birdles in the final seven holes at Kingston Heath on his way to a 68 for a 10-under-par total of 278. ALISTRALIAN OPEN (Melbourna) Lending fi-nal scores (Aus unless statistics); 278 G Nor-men 72 69 69 69. 280 P McWhitney 68 70 72 70. 281 C Parry 70 72 71 88; J-I. Gusty (Fr) 73 69 69 70. 282 5 Appleby 72 72 70 68. 284 G Watte (NC) 69 73 72 70; M Hal-berg (Swe) 72 72 71 69. 285 D Hill 73 70 69 73; P Lorset 76 72 70 67. 288 R Al-lerby 71 74 71 70; R Wills 71 74 70 71; T 686 71 70 73 72. 287 1 Proc 70 76 74 67; C Marry 73 73 71 70. 285 8 Fason (US) 70 76 73 69; G Opty 70 75 73 70; L Tri-kler 68 74 75 71; P Frizglebon 70 78 68 72. 289 M Clayton 73 89 73 74; P Developtri (NC) 69 73 73 74; P Frowler 72 71 71, 75; G Dodd 72 76 70 77; J Mores (US) 70 74 73, 290 B Jackson (GB) 73 71 74 72; D Nessell-Smith 71 77 70 72; P Moss (US) 69 76 72 72 73; R Pampling 70 73 71 76; 281 S Ethington 71 75 72 73; M Campbell (NC) 69 78 72 72, 284 Play (US) 73 65 80 73. ZeMBABWE OPEN Leading final scores (SA AUSTRALIAN OPEN (Melbourne) Leading fi-nal scores (Aus unless stated): 278 G Nor-

SECOND TEST (Chiambook: Great Britain 1 Argamme 1.

NASTRO AZZURRO SOUTH Premier: Archonans 0 Oxford Hewis 2; Chichester 0 Ashtord 3; Gore Court 2 Lewes 3; Right Wycombe 2 Old Walcountians 1; Newbury 1 Mademheed 1; Old Migstonans 3 Fareham 3; Spencer 1 Beckenham 2; Wimbledon 5 Lyons 1; Woking 1 Bournemouth 0; Wokington 2 Vanchester 5. Beckenfram 2; Wimbledon 5 Lyons 1; Wok-ing 1 Bournemouth 0; Wolangham 2 Win-chester 5.

ADNAMS EAST Premier: Bedford Town 1 Chemistord 1; Beshop's Stortford 4 Cobrester 3; Bury St Edmunds 0 Ipswich 4; Cambridge City 2 Peterborough Town 2; Cambridge Univ 4 Redbidge and litted 0.

### DIZ NEDLAND Premier: Beiter 1 North Notis 3: Bridgnorth O Notarigham 3; Hampton in Ar-den 1 Loughborough Students 0; Hamborne 3 Khalsa 0; John Pleyer 2 Bloowich 5. SUN LIFE WEST OF ENGLAND AND SOUTH WALES Premier: Bath Bucarners 0 Chel-tenham 1; Brigot Umv Syensee 1; Exter Univ 4 Phymouth 1; Rebinsons 3 Taumon Vate 1; Whitchurch 5 Meston-super-Mars 2. NORTH First Division: Ben Rhydding 1 War-ringion 2; Harrowgate 0 Formby 1; Neston 2 Hastex 1; Southport 4 Sheffield Barkers 3; Timpertey 1 Norton 4.

Haisax 1: Solumport 4 Shemeri Berners 3: Imperley 1 Norton 4.

LACE MAWER MORTH WEST Flest Division: Bebington 3 Bowden 0; Chatham Hill 1 Ne-ston 2: Datsbury Northern 1 Deestde Ram-tiens 1: Gaso 2 Collym Bay 1: Lytham St. Annes 3 Manchester 3; Macclestialt 2 Lytham 51 Annes 3 Manchester Univ 0 Northop Half 5; Mortambe 3 West Debt 0; Preson 4 Presort 0; Wamington 0 Winnington Park 2.

WOMEN'S OLYMPIC QUALIFYING TOUR-NAMENT (Cape Yourk: China 2 Argentina 1: Great Britain 1 South Africa 0: Norea 1 Cand-da C; Germeny 2 Netherlands 3: Final standings: 1 Korea 11 pts; 2 Green Britain 9: 3 Gerntery 8; 4 Argentina 6; 5 Notherlands 7: 6 China 7; 7 Canada 3; 8 South Africa 3. Final (World Champlons) and United States (Nosta).

WOMEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE Premier of-

traile (World champlons) and United States (hosts).
WOMERY'S NATIONAL LEAGUE Premier ofvision: Balsam Leicester 1 (pawich 1; Califon 2 Brachnell O; Hightown 4 Donasater 1; Surton Canada Life 3 Stough 0, First Division: Bluehards 1 Sunderland Bedams 3; Cartietomy 1 Trojans 3; Exmouth 0 Braditord Swithenham 6; Wimbelson 1 Chemactor 3, Second Division: Alondige 4 St. Albans 2; Otton 2 Loughborough 0; Reading 1 Ealing 2; Wolang 0 Sherwood 1.
WOMERY'S MORTH First Division: Cartisle 0 Liverpool 2; Don Valley 2 Blechburn 3; Newcastle 0 York 2; Sheffield 1 Poynton 2.
WOMERY'S WEST Pression: Bournemouth 2 Chellenham 2; Learnisser 0 Wimborn Waylarers 0 Redland 4; Colwell 1 St, Austell 4 East, 
Sloucester 0.
WOMERY'S WIDLANDS Premier: Balsam

WOMEN'S MIDLANDS Premier: Balsam Leucester O Bedford 1; Kettening 1 Hampton in Arden 1; Pecerl 2 Pictowick 2; Tamworth O Ortmson Ramblers 0. Crimson Ramblers 0.

WOMEN'S EAST SUPER LEAGUE Premier:
Bodey Hearth 5 Sancers 1; Cambridge City
2 Seven Cake 2; Inswech 0 Old Loughbrans
5; Welvyn Garden City 0 Harlston Magpies 2.

WOMEN'S SOUTH First Divisions City of
Portsmouth 2 Camberley 1; Dulwich 1 Hendran 0; Hampeised and Westminster 2 Winchester 1; Southempton 2 Worthing 1; West
Whitney 4 Winchmore Hill 1.

Regal Trophy Third Round London Broncos (14) 18, Halfax (12) 22. London Broncos: Tries: Mestrov 2, McKer-re, Res. Gode Matemon. Halface Tries: John Bentley 2, John Schuster, Tulagi; Gode John Schuster 3. (played at The Stoop, 1,205)

Bentiey 2, John Schuster, Tulagi, Geals, John Schuster 3, (pieyed at The Stoop, 1,205)
YESTERDAY
Battley (10) 22. Warrington (22) 35. Bet-ley, Titles Moton, Tominson, Weston; Geals-Parintson 5. Warrington: Titles Curter 2, Ford, Penny, Rudd, Scuttnarpe; Geals lestyn Harns 5. Drap Mechey. (1,754)
Dewebury (1,4) 14. Rochdate (4) 26. Dewebury (1,4) 14. Rochdate (4) 26. Dewebury; Titles G Bell, Brancht; Coelec Corwey
3. Rochdate: Titles J Green, C Hilton, Mand-sley, Meadows, Pitt; Goelec Churn 3, (927)
Huddersfield; (7) 0, Wigan (1,6) 32. Huddersfield; Titles: Cornolly 2, Farrell, Offish, Robinson, Goelec Farrell 6. (6,026)
Hutt (8) 26, St Heleton (1,6) 38. Heft: Titles: Valions 2, Doorty, Starling, Geals: McNerman
5. 3f Heleton: Titles Hayes 2, Persint 2, Sullign 2, Lyon. Geals: Goulding 5. (5,102)
Humslet (9) 17. Cartiele (1,0) 22. Husslet:

## SPORTING DIGEST WOMEN'S TRYSPORTS THREE COUNTESS First Division: Bracknet 3 Milton Keynes 3: Ferham Common 3 Marlow 0; Newbury 3 Sonring 2: Oxford Hawks 2 Ranleagh 0; Oxford Umn 1 Heroly C: Wycombe Rye 3 Reacing 0. NATIONAL LEAGUE First Divisions: Bartord Tiges 2 Carmock 2; Boumente 2 Hull 2; Hounslow 3 Canterbury 3; Reacing 4 Stourport 0; Southgate 2 Old Loughzonens 1; SI Albars 1 Cauliford 6; Surbatin 5 Hazera 4; Teddingson 1 East Grinstedd 1; Tripers 2 Indian Gymirhana 0. Second Divisions: Beeston 3 Stough 2: Bromley 1 Bluehearts 2; Brooklands 3 Streffield C; Crosty, 0 Edgleston 9; Frebrands 1 Oxford Univ 2; Hampstead and Westminster 1 City of Portsmouth 2; Harleston Magpies 2 Doncaster 2; Isra 0 Gloucester City 1: Otton and West Warveck 2 Richmond 1.

ice hockey

Nordic skling

Pools news

### Maria Sanchez Lorenzo.

final. Having also recently won the Nip-pon Cup in Japan, Baird is now No 1 in the Omega world rankings - the first time an American has occupied the postoon since the standings were intro-Auced in 1988.

MDJ. WINTER SERIES (Hamble): Race & CHS2: J Garret (Garrety): CHS2: A Webster (Quencher): CHS3: O Duffin (Fastrak III). CHS4: J Wilkinson and P Meakins (Poly): CHS5: M Moody (Shallot). Sportboots: N Harting (Big Bull). Sigma 38: J Driver (Redcoat III). Sigma 38: J Provel (Prunel and Bas). Folkboot: C Dobrer (Harchen). Overall (best six from eight races): CHS1: R Cameron Dave, Kinsnton; CHS2: H Davies (Madog). CHS3: D Duffin. CHS4: J Wilkinson and P Meakins. CHS5: P Smith and C Dowling (Scoppon). CHS5: M Moody. Sportboots: D Cable (Aust Midnight). Sigma 38: J Peny (Pressorm). 124: J Anderson. Melages 24: M Humphres (frag.). Folkboots: J Tufnat (Gramlin).

Skling

NNL: (Fridar) Bostom 2 Los Angeles 1: Philadelphia 4 Detroit 1: Chicago 5 Anahem 4 (oft); Buffalo 1 NY Islanders 1 foft); Hart-ford 4 foront 0; Tampe Bay 2 Washington 1: Edmonton 5 Caligary 2. (Saturdary) Washington 4 Hartford 2; Empa Bay 2 NY Islanders 1; Detroit 2 NY Rangers 0; Colorado 2 Montresi 2; Prussburgh 5 Buffalo 3; Detas 2 New Jersey 0; Toronto 2 St Louis 2; Boston 3 Ottawa 3; San Jose 7 Vancouver 2.

### NOTCIC SIGNING MEN'S WORLD CUP (Vuolenti), Fin) 10km cross-country: 1 V Smirnov (Rez) 25min 03.6sec; 2 B Daehle (Nor) 26:09.7; 3 S Rapo (Fin) 26:46.0; 4 J Münleg; (Ger) 26:48.7; 5 A Prolumorov (Rus) 26:49.7; 6 S Fauner (II) 26:50.8; 7 J Behle (Ger) 27:03.7; 8 M Bottwinov (Rus) 27:04.0; 9 S Sivertsen (Nor) 27:04.4; 10 H Norchack (Swe) 27:05.4.

DIVIDEND FORECAST: Moderate, tele-phone claims required for 24pts. Score draws: 2, 3, 11, 21, 28, 32, 39, 44, 53, 50, No-score draws: 1, 12, 16, 26, 41, 42.

Ed Beird, of the United States, who was coach to the America's Cup winning Team New Zealand earlier this year, won the Steinleger World Match Racing Championship in Auckland helped by three of his San Diego craw, beating Roy

## on the Section Tall yield in India by eight on the first. WORLD ALPRE CUP (Park City, Utah) Ments gleat statemen: 1 M von Greanigen (Swit 2mn 27.48sec; 2 L Mus (Nor) 2-27.50; 3 H Krieus (Aut) 2-28.93; 4 F Nyberg (Swit 2-29.80; 5 C Mayer (Aut) 2-30.14; 6 J Mosr (Sloven) 2-30.19. Leading gleant statem standings: 1 Nor Gruenigen 300pts; 2 Mus 2-40; 3 Keelin 156; 4 Kraus 128; 5 Nyberg 116; 6 Noeir 90; 7 Locher Bt. Leading overall World Cup standings: 1 Von Gruenigen 300pts; 2 Mus 285; 3 U Keelin (Swit) 156; 4 Kosir 130; 5 Kraus 128; 6 Nyberg 110; 7 K A Azmodt (Nor) 103; 8 M Tittscher (Aut) 100; 9 A Tomba (It) 96; 10 S Locher (Swit) 81. Nation's Cup overall standings: 1 Austria 1,004pts; 2 Switzerland 924; 3 Norway 812; 4 Italy 419; 5 France 338.

Tries: Lea, Mass, Storp. Goula: Cost 2. Dro; Goals: Brook, Carlisle: Tres: Marihera, Rus sall, Thurbur, Williams; Goula Richardson 3. (1,355) Leods (22) 42, Bradford (6) 28. Leods: Tries. Innes 2, Currenins, Iro, Mann, Shew, Goalse Cook 9. Beadford: Tries: Hassan 2, Ella, Nuc. McDermott, Simpson, Goalse Ells 2 (10.093)

Stones Centenary First Division Featherstone (24) 60, Whitehaven (4) 10, Featherstone: Tries: Pastson 4, Jackson, Marker, Molley, Rodger, Simpson: Goels: Peat-son 12, Whitehaven: Tries; Doyle, Seets, Goals: McGuire. (1,569)

Division Two
Division Two
Brandey (13) 17, York (11) 15. Brandey:
Tries Paides 2, Blandey: Goale: Creecer 2.
Drop Long, York: Tries Damen Ball, Hil, Littrance. Goal Precious. Drop Dobson. Arc 500

RUGBY LEAGUE RESULTS AND TABLES eter (6) 12, Leigh (16) 38. Done Chappell, Mycock; Goals Chap 501 3, Valcoso 2. (1,174)
HHB. KR. (24) 60. Highfield (0) 6. Hull KR:
Tries: Plange 3, 6 Brown 2, C Brown, Eastwood, M. Fletcher, C. Harmson, Hoe, O Brien,
Stewart: Goale: M. Ristcher 6, Highfield: Tries:
Gary Hoteler; Goale: Faming, Att. 1,258
Swinton (12) 13, Chorley (8) 13. Swinton
Tries: Astronom, Else, Holiniay, Goale Se 3.
Chorley: Tries Brannes 2, Clayton, Parker.
(667)
P. W. D. L. F. A. Pts.

#### The weekend's re-scheduled women's World Alpine Cup gant statom and statom events at Lake Louise, Alberta, Cana-da, were cancelled because of exces-

sively soft snow caused by warm

Spooker ROYAL LAYER ASSURANCE UK CHAMPI-ONSKIP (Preston) Third round: S Hendry (Sco) bt G Willarson (Eng) 9-2; P Ebdon (Eng) bt S Lee (Eng) 9-5.

#### Speed skating

Speed skating

WORLD CUP (Berlin) Merc 1500m: 1 M Hersman (Neth) 1min 54.25ser; 2 A Sondral (Not) 1:54.60; 3 H Noake (Jepan) 1:54.62; 4 K Shriahata (Japan) 1:54.78; 5 R Risma (Neth) 1:55.19.5,000m: 1 R Risma (Neth) 6:53.27; 2 G Romme (Neth) 6:53.50; 3 K Shkahata (Japan) 6:54.27; 4 M Hersman (Neth) 6:53.53; 5 B Velklarry (Beb 6:59.50; 6 T trokawa (Japan) 7:02.10. Worsman: 500m: 1 S Shurous (Pus) 40.31; 2 S Auch (Can) 40.67; 3 C Le May (Can) 40.68; 4 E T Hoseth (Nor) 40.80; 5 F Schrik (Ren 40.93, 1,000m: 1 C Witty (US) 1:21.66; 2 Schank, 1:22.46; 3 S Musunose (Japan) 1:22.97; 4 S Wöser (Gen 1:23.35; 5 A Baer (Gen 1:23.41, 3,000m: 1 G Niermann (Gen) 4:26.31; 6 S Bashanova (Rus) 4:27.32; 6 A Fitesanger (Gen) 4:28.05.

#### Squash

tenorating race conditions in Park City, Utah to continue his giant slalom mas-tery on the World Cup tour with his third consecutive victory. The victory enabled Von Gruenigen to reclaim the overall World Cup lead from Norways Lasse Mus-by 14 points. The defending champi-on Alberto Tomba, of Italy, missed a gate on the second run after finishing eighth on the first. PAKISTAN OPEN (Kerachi) Semi-finals; R Eyles (Aus) Ist C Walker (Eng. 15-12 15-11 15-11: J Khan (Paki Ist D Ryan (Iri) 15-9 15-8 15-4, Final: Jansher Khan Ist Eyles (15-9 15-12 15-8.

Suttino

Krusho Grand Tours-Ament (Fotoles) Fimal day of 15: Acanosho (von 9, lost 6) bt
Kraino (3-12); Hamanoshuna (3-7) tx Rindma (8-7); Krushini (8-7) tx Ognohana (3-6);
Ktakachdold (3-7) tn Kasugniuj (3-7); Kotobepu (3-7) tx Higanoumi (6-9); Asanousia (3-7) tx Ognishiki (3-7); Almoshima (3-7) tx Asanousia (3-7) tx Maugeseo (3-7); Miratoliuj (3-7) tx Aognema
(3-6); Dalshoho (10-5) tx Dalshi (3-12); Turso
(3-6); Dalshoho (10-5) tx Dalshi (3-12); Turso
(3-6); Dalshoho (10-5) tx Oslonica (3-12); Turso
(3-7) tx Tursonumi (3-6); Tochmowala (3-10)
tx Kenko (5-10); Takatoria (7-8) tx Malnou-

#### TODAY'S FIXTURES

Football

(7.30 Unless stated)
FR CARLING PREMIERSHIP
RA CARLING PREMIERSHIP
RACTED TO SHEELD NORTHERN SECTION accord round: Doncester v Notes County.
AUTO WINDSCREENS SHIELD NORTHERN SECTION accord round: Doncester v Notes County.
CAR VALUE ALL COMPRISED Hotelsoir Virision
Unit v Broader LEAGUE Premier Division: Wirsion
Unit v Broader Guester v Byth Sparams.
PONTHIS LEAGUE First Divisions Birmingham v
Botton: Exceller First Divisions Birmingham v
Botton: Exceller First Divisions Birmingham v
Botton: Exceller First Divisions Birmingham v
RACH INSURANCE COMBINATION First Divisions
Pastol Roses v Ipseich; Chelses v Charlion (7.0):
Milledi v Brighton (2.0): Totterham v West Harn.

Rugby Union
CLUB MATCH: Moseloy v Vani Trangle (SA) (8.0).

#### TODAY'S NUMBER

The players in yesterday's Arsenal v Blackburn Premiership metch sporting bandaged wrists. Tony Adams received his injury playing for England and Arsenal team-mate Paul Merson was hurt in training. Rovers' Graham Le Saux, meanwhile, was nursing the result of his infamous fracas with David Batty.

Recently the first maxim has been reversed; Liverpool are losing when playing well. In each of the last five matches they have played well, if not for the whole match. At Middlesbrough on Saturday they were terrible in the first half, but excellent in the second. They lost 2-1. In the last five games they have taken one Premiership point from 12 and gone out of Europe. For once, talk of a cri-

It is not that Liverpool are go-ing to get relegated. The situa-tion is not that critical. But, with Newcastle, the other pre-season favourites, 14 points ahead and disappearing over the Pre-miership horizon, neither are they likely to win the title.

The reason is not difficult to fathom. While the defence can be shaky, a team with the best young goalscorer, the best veteran goalscorer, and the most expensive goalscorer in the country is not scoring goals. In those last five games they have

Ian Rush is partially exonerated. He is injured and has missed the last three games. Al-though he managed only four goals beforehand he did prove a good partner for Robbie Fowler. Fowler himself is partially excused: he has scored 13 goals this season. Stan Collymore? Guilty as charged.

Collymore has scored twice this season, most recently on 16 September, a poor return even given his irregular appearances. He never looked like scoring on

This is not entirely his fault. As Collymore contentiously suggested earlier this month, Liverpool do not seem to have given any thought to how he was to fit into their system.

Collymore likes space and possession. At Nottingham Forest most attacks were directed to, or through him. They were primarily counter-attacks, which gave him room to run at defences. Liverpool move forward like a royal procession. graceful, but hardly urgent. Collymore is thus starved of pos-



### GLENN MOORE

is cramped for space and his

However, the player himself does not help matters. Liverpool expect their players to work hard for the team. For forwards this does not just involve running off the ball: Rush has been harrying defenders for 15 years. When Fowler first came into the team Rush's work-rate made the youngster appear a

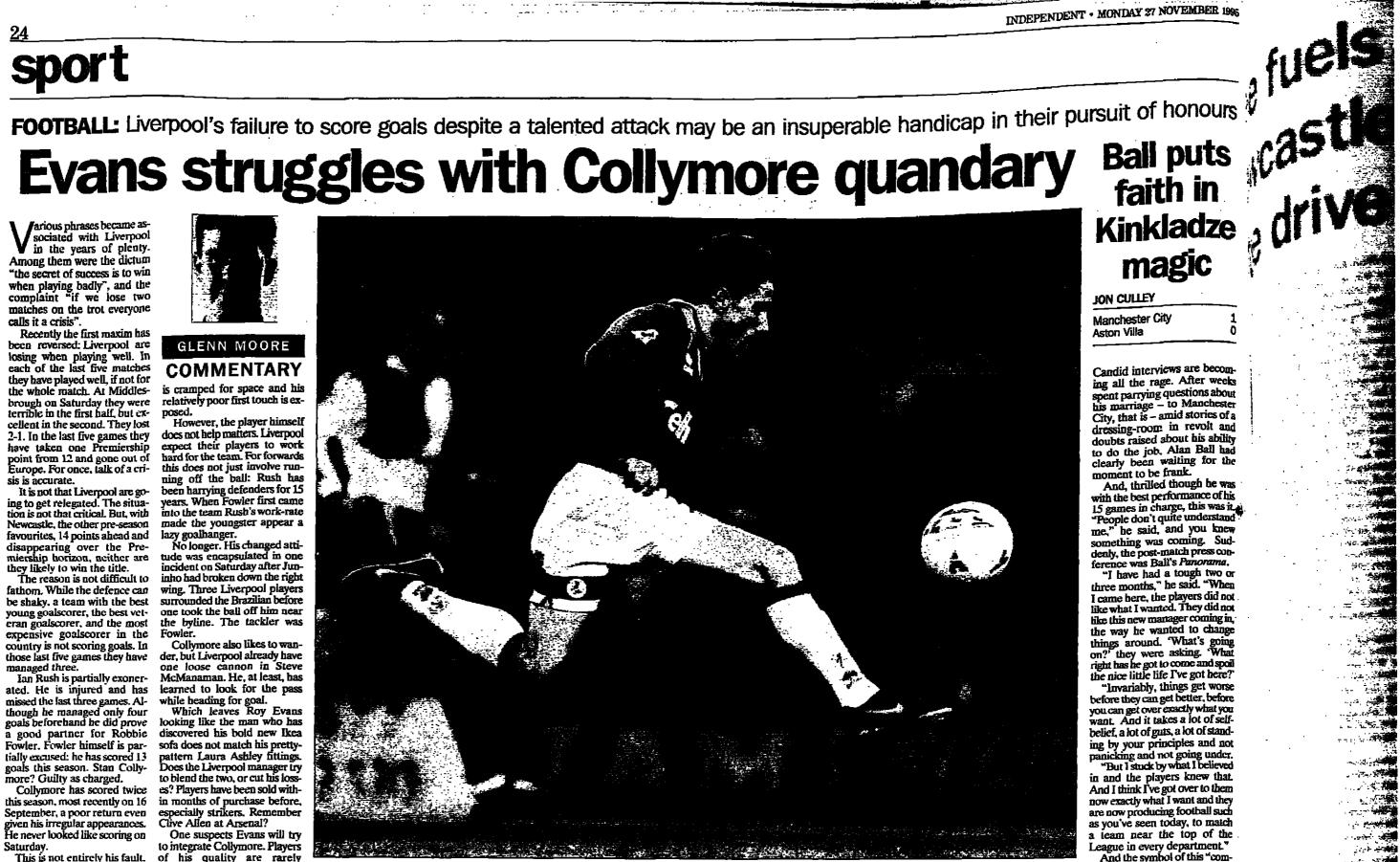
No longer. His changed atti-tude was encapsulated in one incident on Saturday after Juninho had broken down the right wing. Three Liverpool players surrounded the Brazilian before one took the ball off him near the byline. The tackler was

Collymore also likes to wander, but Liverpool already have one loose cannon in Steve McManaman. He, at least, has learned to look for the pass while heading for goal. Which leaves Roy Evans

discovered his bold new Ikea sofa does not match his prettypattern Laura Ashley fittings. Does the Liverpool manager try to blend the two, or cut his losses? Players have been sold within months of purchase before, especially strikers. Remember Clive Allen at Arsenal?

One suspects Evans will try to integrate Collymore. Players of his quality are rarely available. But as a person Collymore appears to react better to security than having to fight for his place. That, however, is what he is likely to have to do for some time.

Middlesbrough's new signings, Nick Barmby and Juninho, have gelled better, although the Brazilian is still settling in. Bemates were learning to pass to his feet. That was not always apparent and it was infuriating to see him constantly run towards session, then given it when he a player, arms out, beseeching



the pass, only for his team-mate to hit the ball long over his head towards Jan-Age Fjortoft. However, Juninho received

more than enough of the ball in the first half for Liverpool's liking. They were tormented by his interchanging with the effervescent Barmby and should have been finished by the interval. "No one has opened us up like that this season." Evans said. Yet Middlesbrough scored

ing and Fjortoft's optimistic deflected shot created an opening for Barmby. He drew David James then coolly pulled the ball back for Neil Cox, James then kept Liverpool in contention, aided by Dermot Gallagher's leniency. The referee allowed Phil Babb to remain on the field after he had crudely clattered into Juninho after 26 minutes. Gallagher evened things up 11 minutes after the break when

ter 90 seconds. Juninho's jink-Gary Walsh handled outside the box as Liverpool took over the game. Both players could, indeed should, have gone under present interpretations of the rules. While Gallagher's reprieves smacked of common sense, they also illustrated the inconsistency managers bemoan.

Liverpool did equalise, 16 minutes later, Neil Ruddock heading in Jason McAteer's cross. But, within a minute, Barmby

Liverpool, with McAteer driving them forward, then beseiged Boro in vain. McManaman scorned a clear chance but, that apart, Boro held firm. with Nigel Pearson outstanding in an impressive back three. It was not hard to see why they have defensive record in the Premiership.

Liverpool, who looked understandably short of confidence

**Deadlock in derby mirrors** 

castle in the Coca-Cola Cup on

Photograph: Simon Wilkinson

Wednesday. A third successive home defeat, after Brondby and Everton, and they will have only the FA Cup to chase from a season that promised so much. Goals: 1-0 Cox (27); 1-1 Ruddock (72): 2-1 Barmby (73).

Candid interviews are becoming all the rage. After weeks spent parrying questions about his marriage – to Manchester City, that is – amid stories of a dressing-room in revolt and doubts raised about his ability to do the job, Alan Ball had moment to be frank.

And, thrilled though he was with the best performance of his 15 games in charge, this was it as "People don't quite understand" me," he said, and you knew something was coming. Suddenly, the post-match press con-ference was Ball's Panorama.

"I have had a tough two or three months," he said. "When I came here, the players did not like what I wanted. They did not like this new manager coming in, the way he wanted to change the way ne wanted things around. What's going things around. What's going What on?" they were asking.

the nice little life I've got here? "Invariably, things get worse you can get over exactly what you want. And it takes a lot of selfbelief, a lot of guts, a lot of standing by your principles and not

panicking and not going under.
But I stuck by what I believed in and the players knew that And I think I've got over to them now exactly what I want and they are now producing football such as you've seen today, to match a learn near the top of the League in every department."
And the symbol of this "com-

ing together of people", as Ball put it, is the 22-year-old Georgian midfield player, Georgi Kinkladze, for whom the club's chairman, Francis Lee, paid Dynamo Tblisi £2m in the summer. Dribbling, passing or shooting, he was the best player on view, his performance finished with a clever and decisive goal, his first in England, after he ran on to Niall Quinn's back-beeled return pass with six minutes left. Just as well, too, after Keith Curle's firstto prove costly.

He was bewildered to start with," Ball said. "He spoke very little English and it was foreign to him to tackle and scrap and fight like you do in England. But the boy's got an immense talent... We knew that if you got him the ball in the right areas he would blossom. I think I've got that across and what you've seen is the one, two-touch football that I believe in orches-

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: -c- 17 **35** 

44

trated by the little fellow." Whether Ball is wise to congratulate himself so soon is another matter - on paper all he has achieved so far is to lift City to fourth from bottom, just the position Villa were in when, a year ago, they sacked Ron Atkinson. But City did look good and the transformation in their fortunes - 10 points from four matches after just two from the first 11 - is startling.

Villa had their moments, indeed, Kit Symons cleared off his line from Tommy Johnson in the opening minute, but Brian Littie, celebrating his 42nd birthday. could not complain that his anniversary was spoiled and did not.

III/VerSarry Was spoiled and did not. Goal: Kinklader (84) 1-0. Manchester City (4-42): Immet; I Brightwel, Symons, Curle, Erighil; Summerbee, Kinklader, Fitteroft, Lomas; Rosler, Quern, Substitutes not used: Creaney, Cotor (gb), Kernaghan. Aston Villa (5-2-3): Bosnet; Charles, Pings. McCrath, Southjate: Wright Taylor (Staunten, 67), Dagner, Johnson, Milosevic (Scinneca, 79), Yorke, Substitute not used: Spink (gb). Reference: G Ashby (Monesster).

### Ferguson waiting in the wings to exploit attacking options

Everton Sheffield Wednesday

If Duncan Ferguson had leapt from his seat in the dug-out during the second half and given the roof of that structure a good, solid head-butt, he would have had a defence which, at worst, should have brought him a suspended sentence.

On top of paying his debt to society, Ferguson, on his first full day outside Barlinnie, had to endure the sight of countless situations that he would have been ideally qualified to exploit.

As it was, an endless stream of crosses and corners from Anders Limpar and Andy Hinchcliffe went unappreciated. With Paul Rideout injured - in, ironically, a clash of heads - Everton lacked the physical presence in the penalty area that would have brought them a winner. To make matters worse, Wednesday had taken a two-

goal lead with Mark Bright Wednesday's lead in first-half in- Alan Stubbs is to see another ADAM SZRETER headers from inviting crosses. Ferguson must have been squirming on his bench; there must surely be an EC directive on such cruel and unusual pun-

The Everton manager, Joe Royle, is still wary and defensive on the subject of his headstrong prodigal, especially when the query comes in a Scottish accent. "I don't talk to the Scottish

press," he told one questioner with giveaway vowel sounds. "Don't you think you've done enough to him? He was willing to concede,

however, that the prospect of Ferguson feeding off the sort of attack across the full width of the field that Everton are now capable of unleashing is a mouthwatering one. On Saturday, the decisive

work was done by a winger whose strong suit is not his crossing but his ability to outrun the defence and find the angle for the shot or the telling pass. Andrei Kanchelskis halved

jury time and it was his pass to Daniel Amokachi that produced the equaliser.

Kanchelskis gave Sheffield an awkward time from start to finish, although they were never acquiescent victims. At almost 34, the debutant Steve Nicol looked thoroughly at home both back on Merseyside

and back in the Premiership. "Five million pounds and worth every penny," enthused David Pleat over his free transfer signing from Notts County. He could sit in an armchair and play, because he's got a brain,"

"Sometimes in English football, you need more brain and less athleticism." Roads: Bright (2) 0-1; Bright (36) 0-2; Kanchelstis (45) 1-2; Amokachi (54) 2-2. Evertora (4-4-2): Southall; Jackson, Watson, Unsworth, Hincholife; Kanchelskis, Parkinson, Ebbrell, Limpar; Rideout (Amokach 18), Stu-art. Substitutes not esset: Home, Kearton (gd.

Sheffield Wednesday (5-4-1): Pressman; Noian, Atherion, Nicol, Wolker, Briscoe (Williams 63, Degyse 72); Weddle, Hyde, Whit-tingsam, Skitton; Bright, Substitute not tingtom, Sinton; used: Woods (gk).

#### Stubbs to see specialist over ankle

specialist today about the ankle trouble which has forced the Bolton defender to miss the last three games

Roy McFarland, the Bolton manager, had hoped that Stubbs would be fit to play at Southampton on Saturday, but reported that the ankle was still swollen and sore.

'The tissue around the Achilles has settled down quite well but the soreness is a bit of a worry," McFarland said. Better news for Manchester

United, whose midfielder Roy Keane is swimming his way back to fitness and on target for a return in the Republic of Ireland's European Championship play-off game with the Netherlands at Anfield on 13 December.

Keane is on a hydrotherapy course to build up his strength after his second hernia operation this year and is optimistic falling to Chelsea's Eddie New-of being fit for the play-off. He ton after 10 minutes, but havexpects to resume to full training within a fortnight.

### the Chelsea boardroom

Tottenham Hotspur

If the second half of this game is anything to go by, then clearly clubs playing for the third time in eight days ought to considering halving the admission fee. Then again, Chelsea provid-

ed so much entertainment off the field last week that perhaps they felt justified in taking every Given that this was a local derby, where avoiding defeat is paramount, the majority of the 31,059 inside Stamford Bridge

were probably not heartbroken by the result or the performance. But to the neutral, the rubbish that was put out after half-time recked with negativity. Both sides had chances in the first period, the best of them

ing been put clean through by decent thing by p Dennis Wise he shot against the straight to Petrescu.

Spurs stirred themselves and Chelsea had Dmitri Kharin to thank for three fine saves, first diving at the feet of Ronny Rosenthal and then, at full stretch, denying Chris Arm-strong twice. All the openings were created by Ruel Fox's right-wing cunning, and at half -time a goal seemed imminent.

The second half began with the farcical sight of Newton and his team-mate Dan Petrescu frantically trying to barge through the crowd of stewards. ball-boys and other hangers-on as the referee, Steve Lodge, clearly with a train back to Barnsley to catch, was blowing his whistle to re-start the game.

Nothing whatsoever happened for the next 25 minutes, until Chelsea won a corner. Their centre-half, David Lee. took it and promptly booted it straight out. Tottenham then won a corner and Fox did the decent thing by passing it

Dutch sleeping on the job

down in seven years and the Dutch have yet to en-

But there may be grounds for optimism for Big Jack

Chelsea replaced a tired looking Nigel Spackman with a tiredlooking Craig Burley, while their Scottish international striker John Spencer remained on the bench. "The bottom line is that if we'd been 1-0 down instead of 0-0 then I think it would have been a different substitution." Chelsca's manager, Glenn Hod-

Petrescu and Teddy Sheringham wasted half-chances at either end and the ponderous Paul Furlong actually put the ball in the net two minutes from time, but he was penalised for a foul on Jason Dozzell. By that stage, though, a goal for either side would have been an injustice, and for Chelsea at least there was the satisfaction of tedious deadlock on the field mirroring the tedious deadlock in the boardroom.

dle, revealed later.

GCCIGICCN. IN LINE OUGH MI COURT Chelses (2-5-2): Khann; Dubery, Lee, Johnsen; Ponescu, Wise, Spademan (Burley, 73). Newton. Hall; Hughes, Furlong, Substitutes not used: Spenoor, Hichbook (p). Tottentham (4-4-2): Walfer; Austim, Caldensood, Mobbut, Campbell; Fox, Dozzel, Hoselts, Rosen-thal (McMahon, 28): Shemghom, Amstring, Sub-stitutes not used: Edvisingh, Doy (g).

## On form there can be only one winner when ireland meet the Netherlands to decide the last qualifier for next summer's Euro 96. Next

Training Dutch style: The Ajax players, Kiki Musampa and Edg-car Daniels, go through unusual motions as the European Cup holders prepare for tomor-row's World Club Championship match in Tokyo - the Toyota Cup - against the Brazilian side, Gremio. South American clubs have won the competition 20 times while European clubs have pre-valled on 13 vailed on occasions.

Rumours

of last season when they signed Andy Cole, Manchester United are planning another swoop for a Newcastle star, according to the News of the World. New target, they say, is Belgian defender burn's Graeme Le Saux, who Philippe Albert, seen as a suc-might feel it is best to move on cessor to United captain Steve after his Moscow punch-up with Bruce. Despite a cult following on Tyneside, Albert has been unable. Also in the People, Leeds are

succeed Graham Taylor at Mo-Fact and fiction from the Sunday papers

Fact and official from the Sunday papers

Fact and fiction from the Sunday Mintor and the People, each of which cames the story that out-of-work former Everton boss Howard Kendali has Having pulled off the transfer coup been lined up to take charge un-til the end of the season...and then give way to Steve Bruce. The People also predicts a £3m move by Arsenal for Black-

to regain favour with Kevin Kee-gan after his long-term injury. Supposedly planning to relieve Manchester United of out-of-The same paper claims Leicester City are bracing themselves for a bitter battle with Wolves over Mark McGhee, on the shortlist to

#### Foreigners who will pay to play for English clubs

ionable that foreigners are willing to pay to play here. Grimsby sensation Ivano Bonetti, the Mariners' match-winner for the second Saturday run-

ning, says he'll stump up half his £100,000 transfer fee to stay at Blundell Park. fit enough for the Premiership by Nottingham Forest, is paying his own expenses rather than go

ing their resignations. William Hill, offering pre-season 3-1, that displayed great faith in

play the English way but I know

After the Lars Bohinen affair.

And now Portuguese triallist. Forest are wary of entering into Antonio Pacheco, told he is not unusual arrangements with over-

Turn back the clock

odds about who would NOT keep Francis Lee's patience.

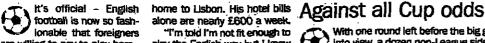
alone are nearly £600 a week. "I'm told I'm not fit enough to

I'm good enough for Forest," the 28-year-old former international said, "I want to know what is the English way and I will stay until I find out, whatever the expense."

seas players - but these are

his job, had their fingers painfully singed, gaing 10-1 Alkinson and 16-1 Ardilles. Had you bet on George Graham not lasting the sea-

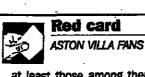
It may have escaped your notice son you could have had 33-1. but here we are in the last days of So who were Hills' no-hopers this November and not one Premier season, then? At even money, ship manager has been sacked. Bottoh's Roy McFarland looks to Have the chairmen all gone soft? have been a reasonable selection By this time last year, five had gone as favourite but 5-4 Geny Francis - Ossie Ardiles, Mike Walker and is looking a bit silly...although not Ron Atkinson shown the door, Ger- as puzzling, perhaps, as 5-2 Alan ry Francis and Brian Little tender- Ball. Considering that Frank Clark and Bryan Robson were only



With one round left before the big guns come into view, a dozen non-League sides attempt to survive the second round of the FA Cup next Saturday, compared with eight last season, half of whom made it to round three.

So which minnows, if any, need the giants fear? The Ladbrokes book on who will actually win the Cup The interesting one is 3,000-1 Telford United, whose

GM Vauxhall Conference form - one win in seven ought not to worry the Second Division promotion hopefuls Notts County. But then again, 11 League scalos have fallen to the Shrooshire shock specialists and, as their captain, Marcus Bisnot, says: "County will be really confident - and that might just work in our favour."



..at least those among them who lacked the decency to stay quiet while the 72-year-old Bert Trautmann, the former Manchester City goalkeeper, struggling in any case with a dodgy microphone, opened City's new £11m Kippax Stand before Saturday's game at Maine Road.

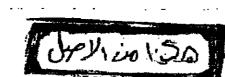


That was the weekend that was

#### Fatigue is becoming a problem for the European Cup holders, whose internationals have played more than 25 games in the last 12 weeks. "Some of us are getting very tired," midfielder Ronald de Boer admitted.

I don't want to say too much but we're looking quite good. We've felt all season that there is no one in the League to frighten us Jim Smith, the Derby County manager, eyeing a promotion challenge after Saturday's draw at Crystal Palace

extended the Rams' run to one defeat in 10 games



Take a bow

JIM STANNARD

the 33-year-old former Fulham

goalkeeper, whose clean sheet

against his old club on Satur-

day was his 12th in 18 League

games for Gillingham, behind

the defence with the best cur-

rent record in the four English

### Lee fuels Newcastle title drive

**GUY HODGSON** 

Newcastle United Leeds United

The mood of patience was set even as you entered St James' Park. On the roof of a petrol station where a number of pro-testers were sitting, a banner Get the Shell out of Nigeria" hung provocatively. Their demeanour suggested they intended to linger.

Inside there were also a group determined to make their point. Leeds, bristling with stubborn intent, had staked a claim on Newcastle's property and were not going to be prised off it easily. Nor, according to their leader, should they have been. Howard Wilkinson had a

face afterwards that suggested a few of his charges had faced an explosion. The Leeds manager looked, in short, like he would like to get the hell out of Nigeria, Newcastle and a few other places besides. Anywhere where he could forget what he

"Disappointing," he murmured, 'very, very disappointing. In the first half we played well but in the second we put the game at risk. The front three lost the ball too easily and the ball kept coming back at us. You can't let a team play in your own half for as long as we were doing.

The second Newcastle goal was just sheer recklessness. Tony Yeboah lost the ball on the half-way line with a dribble and suddenly we're losing. At 1-1 we had a result." His voice tailed off, his own patience clearly strained.

It was the suddenness of Leeds' surrender that shocked. After 70 minutes they were a goal ahead thanks to a scorching 31st-minute header from Brian Deane and looked to be comfortably containing a Newcastle side who were becoming exasperated. A minute later and they were losing 2-1.

That was due largely to Robert Lee who Kevin Keegan deer in Britain. "He was a corpo-ral in the army when he arrived here," the Newcastle manager," said, "now he's a general." The officer he had in mind was probably Sherman because Lee had the vulnerability of a tank.

Collecting the ball on the half-way line he surged forward, swept Tony Dorigo out of his path and thumped a low shot to John Lukic's right. "Somebody wrote recently that Lee is not good enough for England." Keegan snorted, "Ask the Leeds players who has impressed them today and they'll say Rob Lee."

Les Ferdinand might have got a mention too because he had a mighty game considering he was slowed by an injury. His height and frame allowed him to win the ball nevertheless and it was one of the prodigious leaps that led to Newcastle's second goal, his header rebounding from Lukic's save and Peter Beardsley sliding the

The result left Keegan's voice strained but his satisfaction blooming. "This will send a shudder round the country a little bit. People will say ooh they've come through that one. That was a tough one. We came up against a side who were playing well. It was a mega-match for us," he said.

It also left Newcastle with a six-point lead in the Premiership after a sequence of fixtures in which they met several of their rivals. "November will go down as the month of character," he said. "I've learnt something about my team that you can't get on the training ground and that is they've got real character. Even when they haven't been playing well they haven't half worked hard."

Goats: Deane (30) 0-1; Lee (70) 1-1; Beardsley (71) 2-1. Nemcastie United (4-4-2): Histop: Ba Peacock, Howey, Baresford; Gillespie, Clark, Ginola; Beardsley, Ferdmand. Su tutes not used: Watson, Albert, Sellan

Leeds United (4-3-3): Lukic; Keity, Wetner all, Jobson, Dongo (Bowman, 89); McAllister Ford (Brolin, 81), Palmer; Speed, Yeboah Deane, Substitute not used: Whelan.



Arms and the man: England colleagues Tony Adams, the Arsenal captain (left), and Blackburn's Alan Shearer attempt to gain the upper hand during yesterday's Premiership match at Highbury, which ended in a goalless stalemate

Photograph: Peter Jay

### Wolves need a man of many talents

The word "Goodyear" is emblazoned on their shirts. The firm on whose coaches they travel is called "Happy Days". In Wolves' position - 20th in the First Division, managerless and closer to purgatory than limbo - the most innocuous names are loaded with bitter irony.

Their 2-1 defeat by Huddersfield at the McAlpine Stadium, newly voted Building of the Year by Britain's architects, underlined the extent of the reconstruction work awaiting Molineux's next incumbent. No points out of nine in the fortnight since Graham Taylor's exit offers a snapshot of decay; the broader picture reveals just eight wins in 34 games.

Hardly a result or a record to prompt a pitch invasion by the chairman, Jonathan Hayward. His father, Sir Jack, Wolves' owner, would probably not have for an experienced operator

the end, exhorting the players to applaud their 3,500 followers. Before driving to his farm in Northumberland, there to relay the bad tidings to Sir Jack in the Bahamas, Hayward Jnr was asked whether an announcement might be made before Wednesday's Coca-Cola Cup visit by Coventry. "I just want to get the right person," he said.

"That's my priority."

His coyness may be a smokescreen for frantic behind-thescenes activity, though it is equally likely that Wolves' search for their man of destiny is no nearer a conclusion. The fans he was so anxious to salute are the people who drove Taylor out, so it is vital to carry them. Judging by letters and polls in the local press, they are as confused as everyone else. One strand of opinion argues

with a good track record. Ron

wards: "We have played another

Fry was happy to take a point

and will further strengthen his

squad today with the loan sign-

ing of Barcelona's Ronnie Ekelund, the Danish interna-

tional, who will make his debut

in the Coca-Cola Cup at Mid-

dlesbrough on Wednesday.

are better than them.

**Phil Shaw** reports on the problems awaiting Molineux's next manager

Atkinson would have fitted the identikit 18 months ago, as would George Graham now but for his ban. Howard Kendall has the advantage of being available, but may be seen as yesterday's man. Skipping a generation, there is backing for Mark Mc-Ghee, Mick McCarthy, Jimmy Nicholl, Steve Coppell, Danny Wilson and Martin O'Neill.

A second school of thought favours a charismatic playermanager, with Steve Bruce, Chris Waddle and Gordon Strachan as front-runners. Although there is a risk in appointing someone with no experience, Wolves' chairman has observed the impact of

such "novices" as Kevin Keegan and Bryan Robson from his base Sources close to Molineux

suggest they have not given up on McGhee or Bruce, while that nodern barometer of opinion. the fanzine editor, claims a groundswell for McCarthy. Whoever accepts the poisoned chalice may literally have a small fortune with which to work, a large one having gone on ground and team already. in the meantime the care-

taker manager, Bobby Downes. has at least restored morale. In terms of quality, however, Taylor's legacy is dubious. Wolves are leaking goals under no real pressure, with de Wolf a particular liability because of his strange inability to compete in the air and tendency to hang

back for fear of being caught for pace if he pushes out.

Andy Booth, the striker Tay-

lor once sought to replace Steve Bull, fired the first goal after Wolves had twice hit the woodwork. Paul Dalton converted a free-kick, a just reward for some stunning touch play by Hud-dersfield, before Bull's header

ensured a more just outcome. When the Haywards did their Field of Dreams bit by transforming Molineux, the public expected Premiership status to follow automatically. Hence the pressure which has generated anguish of a kind conspicuous by its absence beneath Huddersfield's curved roofs. There, for the moment, having a beautiful place to enjoy football seems to be enough. Scotte: Book (20) 1-0; Daton (38) 2-0; But (79)

2-1.
Huddensfield Town IA-4-2: Francis; Dyson (Jepson, 85), Sculy, Gray, Sanott: Jenlene, Malei, Bullock, Deltort: Booth, Rose. Substitutes not used: College, Norman (gl).
Wolverhampton: Wanderers (3-4-3): Jones; Roherts, De Wolf, Venss, Rankers, Emblen, Aldens, Thompson; Bull, Goodman, Foley (Ferguson, In-1): Substitutes not used: Law, Williams.
Reference it Pearson (Peterlae).

three minutes after half-time the

result looked a formality and

Gordon Durie added a stunning

fourth with only his second

touch after coming on as a

reports that the £2.5m signing

of Gremio's Brazilian strike

Jardel is all but wrapped up.

Morton's Allan McGraw

was recovering yesterday after

becoming the second Scottish

manager this season to be

rushed to hospital during a

match. McGraw was taken away

by ambulance as his side bear

the leaders, Dunfermline, 2-0 on

to go second in the First Divi-

sion. He had tests in a Dun-

Smith would not be drawn on

#### **Argentina** stunned as Hoskin steals in

Hockey

PETER COLWILL Great Britain

David Whittle, the Great Britain manager, should be highly satisfied by the start his men's team made to their wairm-up for the Olympic qualwas man to the Orympic qual-ifying campaign, drawing with Argentina at Hounslow on Sat-urclay after beating them 4-2 at Reading last week.

These were Britain's first internationals for 18 months and Whittle used them to look at 22 players, omitting seven cer-tainties for the Olympic qualifier in Barcelona in January.

Argentina, who finished seventh in the World Cup and who have already qualified for the Olympics as Pan American champions, are a fast and skilful side who provided a stiff

challenge. Howard Hoskin, playing only his second international had a gcal disallowed in the seventh minute for a borderline offside. but the slightly built Reading mildfield player was on hand to score the British equaliser.

Argentina went ahead in the 18th minute. Jorge Lombi ratthed the crossbar and the rebound resulted in the second of their three penalty corners. Allasdair Seaton did well to save the first shot from Maximilliano Caldas, but was helpless as Leandro Baccarro swept this rebound into the net.

Ten minutes later Britain were level. A quick free hit by Soma Singh released Ben Sharpe down the right. As his criss came over Danny Hall was im peded, but the British bench we're quick to applaud the excelllent advantage played by the un pire, Hamish Jamson, which allowed Hoskin to steal in un-

ng-ficed at the far post.

GRIEAT BRITAIN: A Seaton (Old Loughton
ank); Some Single (Southgrie), P Edward
(Cannock), S Health (hourslow, capt), J Wai
lis in Teddington), A Colehough (Teddington)
6 S harpe (Cannock), J Lee (Old Loughton
and), D Hant (Gustford)
H Hantin (Braston)

(Markern), ARRIGENTIMA: R Schmidt, J Querejeta, F Mor-resi, M Caldas, E Pellos, D Ruz, G Minadeo, A Dicharty (capt), R Peraz, J Lombi, L Baccarro. Setjatitutes esed: G Muk, D Chodo.

Old Loughtonians suffered their first defeat of the season. losing 2-1 to Southgate who go two points clear at the top of the National League. Cannock, who drew 2-2 with Barford Timers remain second ahead of Reading and Old Loughtonians on goal difference. Calum Giles Dods headed into his own net land strikers Ally McCoist and converted four corners, but it was not enough as Surbiton, Darren Jackson traded early with three goals from Richard Elmitt, beat Havant 5-4. Once Charlie Miller struck

### place for **Britain**

BILL COLWILL

reports from Cape Town Great Britain

South Africa Great Britain went into their last game of the Olympic qualifying

tournament knowing they need ed at least a draw against South Africa to book their ticket to the Olympics in Atlanta. Saturday's workmanlike victory saw them into second place as the last day's games unfolded. China came from behind to beat Argentina 2-1 and had to wait until the fast game of the

day to know their fate. With the Netherlands going behind against Germany after six minutes, the Chinese were beginning to celebrate the thought of their first Olympics. But the Dutch, needing a victory to avoid missing the Olympics for the first time, stormed back to win 3-: With Jane Sixsmith firing on

all cyclinders, Britain always lookeri capable of getting the point they needed against South Africa. Nevertheless, they had to wait until the 29th minute for the solitary goal. Sixsmith, making a lot of ground down the right wing, cut in to provide a chance from close quarters and Rhona Simpson scored.

Although South Africa put up spirited resistance, they never looked like penetrating a well-marshalled British defence in which Jill Atkins was the pick. However, plenty of work lies ahead in the coming months. An injection of speed into the defence appears essential, and some changes in the front run-

SOME CHANGES IN THE FIGHT FUN-HETS INFA DE NECESSARY.

GREAT BRY TANK J Thompson (Ipsach); S. Fras-er (Grove, J. Midden (Backhod Swiftenherk, cap).

Devices (Sk. Mon Caracle Life), F. Rabertson (Grove), T. Miller (Calhon); M. Micholia (Slough), J. Steamith; Sumon Coracle Life), Beannett (Slough), Shabettrape smach R Support (Schrift), Land), S. Walettrape Steach R Support (Schrift), Shabettrape Steach (Steach Welseym), C. Chok-burgh), S. Walettrape (Schrift), S.

### **Hunt keeps Birmingham in the hunt**

JAMES WOODWARD

Birmingham City Leicester City

- 217 - 27

. . . . .

A stirring fightback by Birm-ingham City at St Andrews yesterday ensured the race for a Premiership place remains as deadlocked as ever.

Birmingham, who had seven players absent and dropped an eighth from the side which lost an unbeaten 15-match run to Derby County in midweek, came from two goals down after only 16 minutes to deny their Midland neighbours the three points which would have taken

FA Carling Premiership

Leicester City back to the top nett before the striker turned in of the First Division. Even then the visitors' of the season.

Birmingham side in which three players - the on-loan Damy Hill, David Preece and Swedish striker Dan Sahlin - were making their debuts, while the 6ft 7in Kevin Francis was returning after a seven-month absence.

Fry claimed he picked Francis to distract Leicester from the fact that "we don't have a defence". They were not fooled. Simon Grayson found acres of space in the ninth minute to cross for Iwan Roberts, whose

nett before the striker turned in the loose ball for his 11th goal Mark McGhee, claimed after-

to bring them victory over a for himself with a shot deflected from the shoulder of Francis and at that point Birmingham were in danger of being routed. However, Jonathan Hunt scored his eighth goal of the season, firing in from the edge of the area on the halfhour to revive the home side's hopes and four minutes after the break the same player converted a penalty after John Frain had been floored by Scott Taylor.

Second Division

Fry threw on two new strikfirst shot was saved by Ian Ben- ers, but Leicester looked more Referee: D Alison (Lancaster)

Birmingham City (4-4-2): Bernett; Forsyth, Winyte, Johnson, Frain; Hill (Schlin, 74), Cas-tle (Lowe, 67), Precce, Hunt; Clarking, Fran-cis (Charlery, 67). Leicester City (3-5-2): Poole; Hit, Whittow, Carey: Grayson, Rarter, Taylor, Lowe, Rolling, Rooms (Neskey, 87), Roberts, Substitutes not used: Joachim, Smith.

FOOTBALL RESULTS AND TABLES

	Yesterday
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	Saturday
	Barnet3 Leyton Orient0
	Bury
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2	Coichester1 Mansheld3
0	Gillingham
š	Plymouth2 Rochdale0
0	Preston
—.કુ	Scuritorpe3 Scurborough3
0	Wigan2 Doncaster0
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	Chester
N Pts	Californian18 10 6 2 25 6 36
4 38	Preston18 10 6 2 25 6 36
4 38 6 35	Rochdale
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4 38 6 35 8 34 9 30 0 29 9 29 2 28 3 27	Carlingham

Second Division: Apr 2 Montrose (1.4-27).
Beneta 4; Queen of South 0 East Ris 2: Sun-housenur 0 Cayle 1: String 1: Stronger 1: Leading positions: East Ris 2: String 1: Stronger 1: Leading positions: East Ris P. P.S. Pm 30; 2: Breaks: Cis-27); 3: Suting (15-27). Third Division: Alton 0 Lungston 2: Breaks 1 Queen's Park, 0; Cell Tradio 1 Alter 1: Condentpanth 2: Ross Country 0; East String 0 Astrooth 1. Leading positions: 1 Liveriston (P1K Dec 2016).

#### Norwich maintain their rise

Round-up

Norwich City's rise towards the top of the First Division table continued with a comfortable 2-0 win against Watford at Vicarage Road yesterday.

The Canaries moved up five places to second behind Millwall as they picked up a fifth successive victory - their fourth in the League - and extended Watford's run without a win to 10 games.

Norwich soaked up early pressure before striking through Ashley Ward and then cemented their lead with a Keith Scott goal early in the second

In the Second Division. Carlisle United eased their relegation worries with a 4-2 victory over Wycombe. The Cumbrians were 2-0 up after just eight minutes, Warren Aspinall opening the scoring and Dean Walling adding the second goal with a flashing header.

Wycombe responded with a Dave Carroll goal after 14 minutes, but nine minutes later Carlisle's captain David Reeves stretched the advantage again with the best goal of the match. Reeves finished off a fine move, getting on the end of a superb pass by Allan Smart. The last two goals were

penalties, with Tony Gallimore converting for Carlisle and Dave Carroll netting Wycombe's 83rd-minute consolation from the spot Cardiff moved up six places in the Third Division after their

3-1 victory at Edgar Street. Carl Dale, leading scorer in the division, scored twice - in the 46th and 81st minutes – to take his tally in all competitions to 18 this season. Hereford dominated the first

half but the Welshmen went in front immediately after the break when Dale pounced on a mistake by the Hereford goalkeeper Chris MacKenzie. Six minutes later, Darren Adams put Cardiff further in front with a header from 10

Hereford scored through Steve White in the 56th minute, but Dale clinched victory nine minutes from the end when he cracked the ball into an empty net after MacKenzie could only parry an effort from Adams.

#### Gascoigne at best Scottish football It was Gascoigne's wickedly flighted free-kick that Darren

goals.

substitute.

Gascoigne from day one of his

time at Rangers, after his £4.3m club record move to Scottish football from Lazio, but on Saturday he orchestrated a 4-1 victory over Hibernian at Easter Road that kept the league leaders four points clear of Celtic. Gascoigne made headlines for the right reasons only four days before he and three other players face a Scottish Football Association disciplinary bearing into alleged incidents against Aberdeen. His performance won praise from both his manager, Walter Smith, who said it

blue jersey, and the Rangers captain, Richard Gough. He's played three games in a week and I thought he looked strong throughout the 90 minutes against Hibs," Gough said.

was one of the midfielder's

"most effective" displays in a

Milan go marching

If Pabio Capello does, as he sug-

Goals from Dejan Savicevic, their Yugoslav midfield player. Christian Panucci and Paolo Maldini, meant Milan remain the target in Serie A.

after five successful seasons at the former European champions, saw Milan go 2-0 up by halftime in a match in which they opted for the aerial approach to good effect. The tactic, designed to com-

from a Savicevic corner.

tered. Lazio lost 1-0 at Vicenza, where Giampiero Maini made up for missing a penalty at Napoli last week by scoring just before half-time. Fiorenti-Internazionale side, who went ahead through Maurizio Ganz after 17 minutes and could have had another goal, from Marco Branca. However, Ar-

elled it in the 67th minute. Florence until their Brazilian Roberto Carlos was carried off on a stretcher in the 52nd

In the Netherlands, PSV Eindhoven took advantage of Ajax's absence in Tokyo, where they are preparing for tomor-row's World Club Championship against Brazil's Gremio. They thrashed NEC 5-0, the Brazilian

striker Ronaldo scoring twice. Two goals from Rui Jorge helped Portugal's defending champions, Porto, to stay clear at the top of the league with a 6-0 victory over Maritimo. The victory was welcome for their coach, Bobby Robson, after Porto's recent poor form in the Champions' League.

.3 Wimbledon ... 2 Sheff Wed.... .1 Aston Vills ... .2 Liverpool..... CASE MANUFACTURE Provided Publishers Database (2.3). Section 2.1 National Conference on the Manufacture of Study I National Conference on the Manufacture of Reputer (2.4). National Conference on the Manufacture of Paul Paul Conference on the Manufacture (2.4). National Conference on the Manufacture (2.4). National Conference on the Manufacture (2.4). National Conference on the Manufacture of California (2.4). National California (2.4) ICIS LEAGUE Premier Divisione Bishop's Son-ford 2 Watton and Harsham C; Kngsonian O En-led 1: Youn 5 Duhlech 3. Leading positione: 1 Enleid (P18/Pa 42); 2 Duhlech (15-31); 3 Bos-ham Wood (16-31). those: 1 Bernher Birden (PZLPs 46); 2 Bernhill Mol (ZZ-43); 3 Guesière (ZL-37).

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PRESS AND JOURNAL HIGHLAND LEAGUE
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HALIAN LEAGUE Cogless 2 Napod C: Cremonese 2 Pedove 1; Florentine 1 Internationale 1; Miston 3 Piscorge C: Rome 2 Bart 1; Sampdons 1 Udinese C: Fortho G Amsterd 1; Victors 1 Luco C.
BERBIAN LEAGUE: Hamburg 1 (Spoet pen 40)
SX Paul C; Fortune Dissection 1; (Victors and 32)
WE Shuggar 2 (Slore 65, Bobic 67); Werder Bremen O Hiseass Restock 2 Benach pen 33, Wellendt 54); 1800 Munich 0 Bayer Leagueur 1 (Roches 68); Claratingen 0 Boursass Dominard
2 (Norline 68); Florentingen 0 Boursass Dominard
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Monchenglached C: Schalle 2 (Bussiens 10), Mulder 70) Entoscht Ferricken C; Kelsestens 10, Mulder 70) Entoscht Ferricken C; Reston Schalle 1; Standing positions:
1 Roles 73) Freeburg 2 (Standing E; Korell 86);
Coughe 0 Equem Munich O, Leagueg De Bottlere 1, (Norline 15-25).
BELGIAN LEAGUE: Narebbelo 0 Cercle Brugse 2;
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PWDLFAPts PG 41; 2 AUGUS NEC 0 PSV Endbrown 5; Spar-ta Robertern 1 RKC Weeks RC Vesses 2 FC Uncert 1 NAC 4 Volendern 0; Go Ahead Engles 1 Roda JC 2; De Gearlichep 1 Willem II 2; Hebreween 1 FC Twents 1; Forma Stone 1 Feyerood D. Lend-leg positions: 1 Apr (PS), Ps 43; 2 PSV End-hysen (15-38); 3 Willem II (15-27).

#### fermline hospital for what is "His fitness looked as good as thought to be a stomach probit has been all season. He had lem. St Johnstone's Paul Stursome close attention but he rock was taken to hospital amid fears of a heart attack during a seems to like that - he can suck game earlier in the campaign.

on through the mud

Overseas football

gested in midweek, move on from Milan next season, he could well be carrying his share of the Italian title with him, to judge from his side's comfortable 3-0 victory over Piacenza vesterday.

Capello, who has been wide-ly linked with a move to Roma

bat the boggy conditions at San Siro, resulted in three headed gnals. Roberto Baggio set up the first two, firing the ball in from the left for Savicevic to head in the rebound and then hitting a corner for Panucci to knock home. Maldini added the third

Lazio and Fiorentina fal-

na struggled against a confident gentina's Gabriel Battistuta lev-

Inter looked likely to win in

CRICKET: England captain and vice-captain in commanding form but Smith still desperately struggling for runs

## Stylish Atherton gives no quarter

MARTIN JOHNSON

reports from Bloemfontein Orange Free State 201-8 England 202-3 England win by seven wickets

If you were to drop a book of things to do in Bloemfontein on to your foot it would not result in much of a bruise, so for England's cricketers to have left the locals feeling that another 30 years without a visit would not quite be long enough was no

On Saturday, England flirted with another Afrikaner uprising as the crowd vented its spleen at being, so to speak, Boered to death, and when very nearly the entire town turned up anticipating greater things for yesterday's one-day game, they went away wishing they had done something a bit more exciting with their Sunday, such as washing the car or mowing the lawn.

England were widely blamed for the three-day match evaporating into a turgid draw, and it is fair to say that Michael Atherton's declaration - leaving the Free State to make 311 in 55 overs - did not exactly err on the side of generosity.

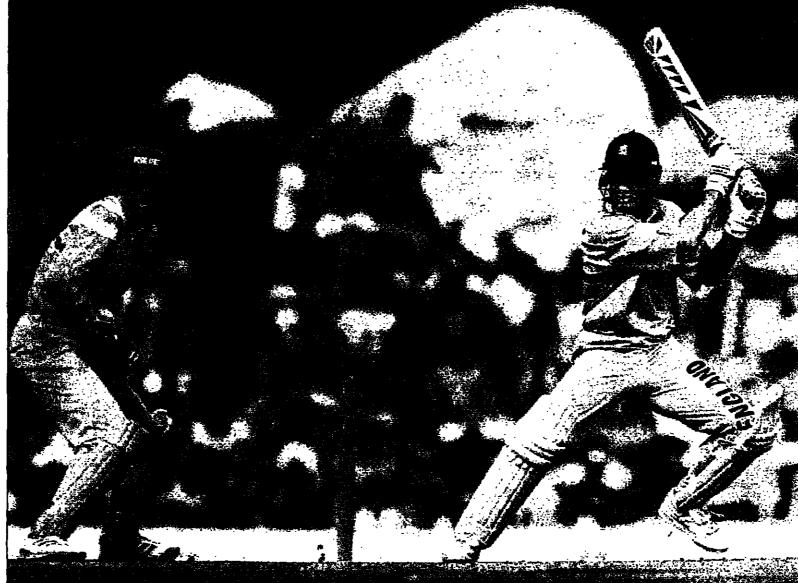
Yesterday, the England captain was even more unchivalrous, making 60 runs off 73 balls with such panache that the essential et, a close finish, had disappeared

before most of the speciators had put a match to their barbecues. England's embarrassingly easy seven-wicket victory, with 54 balls to spare, will have put them in good heart for Thurs-day's second Test match at the Wanderers ground in Johannesburg, although what other relevance it will have had to that particular game is a moot point.

In fact, the most pertinent factor from the weekend is whether England's Test match selection will be affected by a back injury to Richard Illingworth. England are hoping that three days of rest will clear it up, but if not (given that the other R Illingworth would currently offer a better spin option than Mike Watkinson) they will have little choice but to go into the match with a

four-pronged pace attack.
This would ordinarily be enough to bring Devon Malcolm back into the Test match equation, but even though Malcolm has been operating here on a pitch almost totally devoid of pace and bounce, the customary debate on Malcolm has switched from whether he is capable of hitting a barn door, to whether he is capable of making a dent in one.

Yesterday's game was at least colourful in one respect, in that anyone watching it at home would have immediately sent for him out of the attack. There was



Gerhardus Liebenberg, the Orange Free State wicketkeeper, watches as England's Graeme Hick hits out

Photograph: Graham Chadwick/Allsport

were kitted out in blue, Free State in a particularly garish shade of orange, Jack Russell was colour uncoordinated in white pads, and the stumps were painted red.

Not, perhaps, quite as deep a shade of crimson as Allan Donald's face after Donald had sent down three overs for 25 runs yesterday, including five fours. He also failed to return for a second spell after Atherton and Alec Stewart had initially thrashed the TV repair man. England just a suspicion that Donald

might have been feeling another twinge from his recent groin strain, although Donald said after the game that he was expecting both to play in the Test match and to take wickets. "There will be more pace in the pitch than there was for the first Test," he said, "and the atmosphere at the Wanderers always gets my adrenalin pumping.

Yesterday's adrenalin, either from Donald or the crowd, would barely have filled a teaand Stewart both played strokes of the highest class, just about the only time the spectators broke silence was to guffaw at a horrendous dropped catch at midoff when Atherton had made 33.

Saturday's spectators were a little kinder, and stoically resisted a similar outbreak of mirth while watching Robin Smith batting. The captain and vice-captain might be in good form, but Smith's elongated 30-ball zero on

Bloemfontein scoreboard

(Orange Free State won toss)
ORANGE FREE STATE
fram c and b Watkinson

ENGLAND \*M A Atherton c Cronje b Venter ... A J Stewart c Liebenberg b Craven A J Stewart C Liebenbi G A Hick b Craven .... G P Thorpe not out M R Ramprakash not

### Le Saux and Batty stick to the game plan

#### Feotball

MATT TENCH Arsenal Blackburn Rovers

Blackburn Rovers may have are signs their season is belatedly gathering momentum. Having own version of the cold war. emphatically ended Nottingham Forest's unbeaten run a stated that Le Saux hit Batty and week ago, they claimed only their Batty hit Le Saux yesterday.

second away point of the cam- Both passes were accurate and paign with a determined performance at Highbury yesterday.

In between, of course, there were the remarkable events in Moscow. David Batty and picked for this match, the latter embraced Europe with all the enthusiasm of Michael Howard, hand, the one which had been but on the domestic front there broken in the act of punching Batty as the two enacted their

For the record it should be

throughout the game the two managed to confine their sporting activity to football. Ray Harford, the Blackburn

manager, said the club would be Graeme Le Saux were both making an announcement detailing the punishment for both players today, but contrary to weekend speculation neither would be leaving Ewood Park.

The ironic cheers that greeted Le Saux's early touches were a welcome distraction from a plodding first half which Blackburn dominated for long peri-

ods without creating much in when an injury to Martin Keown with Helder a frequent threat a Sunday lunchtime. The football the way of goalmouth incident. brought Glenn Helder on as a down the left and he might have rarely rose above the mundane, Their best opportunity came in the 16th minute when Stuart Ripley, cleverly fed down the right by Alan Shearer, crossed ing a neat move that involved to the near post where Mike Dennis Bergkamp and Helder Newell's close range shot was well blocked by Lee Dixoil.

Arsenal, clearly missing the suspended Ian Wright and injured Ray Parlour, frequently resorted to long balls and the midfield, in which David Platt was anonymous, failed to exert any control. They did improve ter start to the second period, there were better ways to spend

substitute, with Paul Merson moved inside, and Merson gave ing a neat move that involved with a well struck shot that Tim Flowers parried round the post.

during the break that the video senal responded with their own screen would shortly be showing first-half highlights was greeted with understandable scepticism.

opened his Premiership account with a rasping drive just after the hour but for another good save from Flowers. The visitors could have won

it six minutes from time when Newell's close range header was Even so the announcement well saved by David Seaman, Araerial threat, but Platt's header ended up in Flowers' arms.

By the end the large crowd

prevented what was always liketo be a closely contested affair from ever gaining a rhythm.

Ansenal (4 4 2): Seaman; Dison, Adams Bould, Winterburn; Hiller, Neom (Heider, 32)

Patr, Messry, Bergiarru, Hartson (Dicker, 79)

Substitute not used: Jersen.

but the referee, Graham Poll,

must accept a measure of blame.

He booked seven players in a

game without a malicious foul,

and his overzealous approach

#### Cook puts boot into battered **Bradford**

Rugby League DAVE HADFIELD

Bradford Bulls

Although Leeds were never danger of losing this Regal Trophy third-round tie, they eventually owed their victory to a flawless display of goalkicking

Both sides scored six tries in a ragged and untidy match, but Cook's nine goals from as many attempts, several of them em nently missable, were the statistical difference between the two sides. "He never looked like missing," Matthew Ellion, the Bradford assistant coach, said ruefully.

He had other things to be rueful about, like the late with drawal of Paul Newlove with a recurrence of his back injury two hours before the kick-off. Without saying so directly, it was obvious that neither Elliott nor his chairman, Chris Caisley, were

On the face of it, a Bradford side lacking nine first choice players through a combination of injuries, flu and suspensions, did not do too badly. "But that flatters us a little." Elliott admitted. "We scored a lot of our points late and I would be liv-ing in fairyland if I said that we were as good as Leeds today." Leeds effectively had the

match won at half-time, with two tries from Craig Innes and one from George Mann, plus Cook's first five goals, giving them a 22-6 lead. Within seven minutes of the restart, they were even more firmly in control, Kevin Iro dummying his way over and Mick Shaw darting in from acting half.

At that point, Leeds showed their old penchant for sitting back and taking it easy, allow-ing Bradford to score five tries in the remaining half hour, three of them in the last eight minutes. Roger Simpson scored one and created another two with deft kicks to emerge with as much credit as any of the

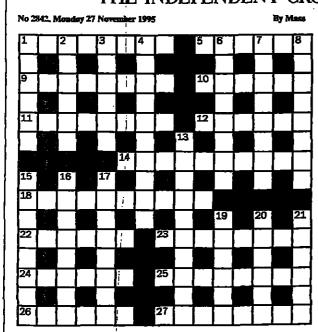
Leeds managed one other try, a bizarre one that summed up some of the eccentricities of Bradford's handling, when Rob-bie Paul gave the ball away to Innes and Francis Cummins raced in. Cook's conversion, and his ninth goal from a penalty, carried an air of inevitability. (Forshaw, 27), Holroyd; Harmon (Howard, 54), Shaw, Howard, (Barrie McDermott, 29), Lowes, Mann, Mercer.

Lowes, warm, Meccer.

Bradford Bullies Simpson; Christie, Grehem,
Turpin, Elis; Paul, Robinson; Boothroyd (Win-terbum, 26; Boothroyd, 60), Donohue (Win-terbum, 72), Harner, Knox, Brian McDermott (Hassan, 62), Wilson.

Round-up and results, page 23

#### THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD



1 Odd glass container's found in coastal marsh- 24 Commie left in disgrace 7

5 It might yield a fortune! 25 The station of a monarch 8

ly considered idyllic (8) 10 Waste — evidence of decline (6)

11 That's nice! (8) 12 Ramps? Bound to be for boarding steamship

14 One usually true to type?

18 Beta plus teacher gives musician (10) 22 Film about Western at-

27 Rose (reportedly a hybrid) died (8) 1 County offices employ them (6) 2 Giving wallop a dash of spirit? (6)

Make recesses partly be- 21 Maroon thread (6) hind entrance (6) 4 Stir in conservatory (10)

MP among pots and toasted cakes (8) Suit certain to give satisfaction (8)

sieur in fashion house? and in trouble (10) 15 Bikes so organised, about 50 in columns (8) 16 Cold War missile? (8) 17 Nuisance to GI, maybe, full of Eastern infection

19 Source of Dutch courage and confidence? (6) 20 Cut wet crimson rose (6)

23 None at party, in drink, 6 This should improve the was noticeably so (5,3) view (8)

River in Canada I vague 26 One hooked by Mon- 13 Is related to one, saucy,

### **Dodds and Shearer** end Aberdeen's wait

DAVID MCKINNEY Aberdeen

Dundee Aberdeen became the last team to leave the old ground with a

trophy after goals from Billy Dodds and Duncan Shearer had secured victory in the Coca-Cola Cup final against First Di-vision Dundee yesterday. The famous ground will un-

dergo the final phase of redevelopment in the new year with the demolition of the South Stand and as it made a final bow in its current configuration the national stadium bore witness to the rebuilding job which has been performed by Roy Aitken, the Aberdeen manager.
It took a play-off victory six

months ago against Dun-fermline for Aberdeen to retain their Premier Division status, an indignity which has ensured greater determination this season. Aitken has brought with him the will to win which characterised his career as a player with Celtic, Newcastle, St Mirren and Aberdeen.

He has been able to bring out the best in young players and although they rarely looked troubled against a disappointing Dundee side, they will feel their semi-final win over Rangers

was worthy of winning the Čup. The final rarely reached any heights, but after Raith Rovers' victory against Celtic 12 months ago, few in Aberdeen will worry about that. They will prefer to look to the example of Celtic when they won the Scottish Cup at the end of last season. Like the Glasgow club, Ab-erdeen have ended five barren years and will look for this vic-

With the loss of Scott Booth, the forward, to injury before-hand, Aitken would have been pleased that both goals came from his strike force of Dodds and Shearer. Stephen Glass was instrumental in both, providing the crosses, a contribution which earned him the man of the match award.

lory to herald the dawn of a suc-

His ball from the left in the 33rd minute was deflected goalward before being pushed out by Michel Pageaud, the Dundee goalkeeper, into the path of

Dodds who displayed his poach-ing instincts by bundling the bail over the line.

The killer goal was delivered 42 seconds after the restart, Glass picking out Shearer inside the area with a high cross which was headed powerfully into the top corner of the net.

Aberdeen might have won by a greater margin, but for bad finishing and bad luck. A minute before the break a well worked one-two unlocked the Dundee defence, but Eoin Jess shot against the foot of Pageaud. At 2-0 ahead, the Dons came close with a Shearer header and a Miller shot rhich scraped wide.

However, the final 20 minutes belonged to Dundee though they rarely troubled the Aberdeen goalkeeper Michael Watt. Ultimately, Dundee had run out of steam, leaving Aberdeen to pick up the rewards which include qualification for next year's Uefa Cup.

### United may leave out McClair

Brian McClair could find himself back on the substitutes bench for Manchester United tonight, despite scoring twice against Coventry City last Wednesday.

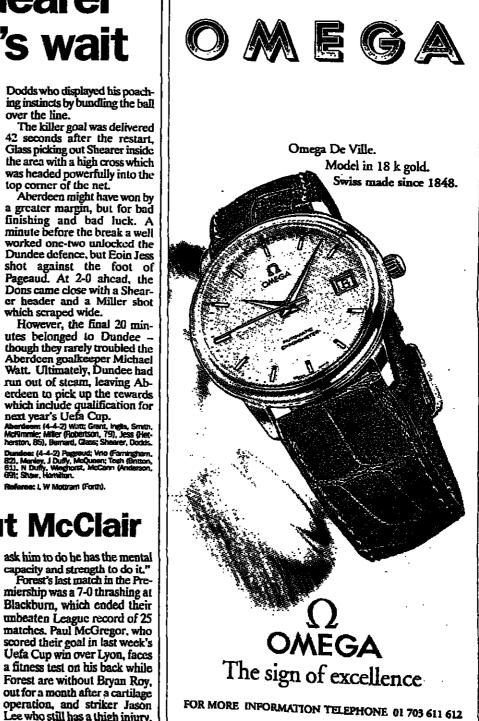
Alex Ferguson must decide between Paul Scholes and McClair for his team to face Nottingham Forest at the City Ground, where victory would bring the Premiership leaders, Newcastle, back to within three points. Scholes, United's leading scor-

missed the 4-0 victory at Highfield Road because of a heavy cold. "I always look at whatever game I play in in the same way," McClair said. "I try and enjoy it as much as I can and take whatmust wait and see what happens, but the club and team are more important than individuals."

Ferguson said: "Brian has given this club great service. He has Scholes, United's leading scor-er this season with 10 goals, set out to make sure whatever I

capacity and strength to do it." Forest's last match in the Premiership was a 7-0 thrashing at Blackburn, which ended their unbeaten League record of 25

ever I can from the game. We matches. Paul McGregor, who scored their goal in last week's Uefa Cup win over Lyon, faces a fitness test on his back while Forest are without Bryan Roy, out for a month after a cartilage Lee who still has a thigh injury.



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